

RALPH KLEIN on health care—and himself | THE BACK PAGE: Andrew Pyper on loving Toronto

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# Overture

Edited by Shanda Doherty with Amy Cameron

### Over and Under Achievers

### L'Affair d'Alfonso

**Alfonse Gagliano:** It looks bad, very bad, for the public works minister and Quebec's Liberal boss. His defence so far doesn't cut it.

**Man Chelita:** His office issues a boilerplate statement of confidence in Cagileo. From Molitor address the specific charges.

**Howard Weiss:** Incredibly, the FBI's ethics counselor balks at probing the case. Do your job or find another.



➔ **Jon Green** The man who blew the whistle calls for a full review of the murky relationship between Green Corps and politicians. Much needed book review

➔ **John Reynolds:** Advance interim border cells for England's coast and demands PM not give him a plum postscript job.

**Stephen**  
Harper's Alliance  
leadership con-  
tender dumps  
communications  
director **John**  
Gallison for dis-  
tinguished **Shook**



## Rough riders, rank stock

**T**ake some of the important bullhead-baited trawls in the West and you'll find measures of danger and stink, crank up the country music and get ready for a showdown—they've rattled up a new brand of apocryphal legend. Not Alibi. Is a bid to bring city folk out at a time of nationwide drops in attendance, sign names on the list have embraced

an unseasoned daredevil rodeo roughstock Xcruiser drops the less thrilling rodeo events such as calf roping and steer wrestling, while introducing the more exciting ones like saddle bronc, barrel racing and bull riding. "People want to see the element of danger, the element of chaos," says **Russel Weber**, organizer of the March 25-26 event. "We're

in preparation for the Gmas, a 2,000-square-foot kitchen is being built per Wilson's designs. He'll be leading visitors, at three hospitality suites set up for the B&B of IOC members and Uthmaniyah Governor's Office. The menu for one function will include a citrus salad topped with sliding shrimp or chicken, barbecued beef brisket, gourmet accompaniments, rice and saffron. For dessert, guests will be dazzled with fruit, marshmallows and Italian ice cream in a free-flowing fountain of chocolate. Now if only the IOC give out gold medals to the winners.

**March 14/15**



## Everybody has their price

**S**ave your head: Fight a heavy-weight boxer. Murder. What would you do for money? **Heather Kanzer**, a New York City-based author, conducted a survey on the Bloomberg Web site to examine the relationship North Americans have with cash. The results are found in *Are You Normal About Money?* (Bloomberg Press). Here are some stats:

- For \$10 million, seven per cent would commit murder and 25 per cent would abandon all of their friends
- 30 per cent of husbands and wives don't know what their spouse earns
- 73 per cent store bills in their wallet according to denominations
- People tip more when the bill comes on a tray or every day or if paying by credit card. Customers tip less if a waitress adds a smiley face to the bill. However, when a waitress adds a smiley face, it has the opposite effect.

- 58 per cent would sit these heads for \$10,000
- 43 per cent take legal action when provoked

■ 48 per cent of people surveyed will walk by a poetry on the street.

■ 26 per cent would sell their best livestock despite auction for \$2,000 (£1,500)

■ 33 per cent would fight a heavyweight boxer for \$100,000.

■ For \$1 million  
bill see next



Roughstock Kiarne has attracted many of the world's top rodeo rodeobles, who will test themselves against a name is widely to number. "The stock has been laying low all winter," says Hilder. "So they'll be coming out hot." Loud country music and a light show will pump up the crowd as cowboy to to size on a

At the end of each night the top two contenders in each event will have a showdown, with the winners pocketing \$500 out of a total purse

of \$36,000. "I'm looking forward to seeing all the great ideas," says saddle-bronc competitor **Dan Black**, of Maple Creek, Sask., who is currently running a broke lapline on the Canadian rodeo finals in November, but will be ready for Roughstock. Steens in March. "There's always sure gonna be a wreck or two!"

**Ethan Jewell**

Fethan Auer



### Give 'em a break

**F**or most Canadians, the Christmas break is a fading memory. For members of Parliament, the holidays won't be over until they return to duty, and often sustained, on Jan. 28. It hasn't always been this way. Under **Brian Mulroney**, the year-end vacation averaged 4.7 weeks—with some exceptions like election years. Under **Jean Chretien**, the golf-swing-Improvement hiatus in December and January has stretched to a lit-

Does that mean the Liberts are packing in more work during the rest of the year? Not really. In fact, since 1964, the House has cut an average of 124 days by contrast, the Maloney years saw the House adding 347 days on average. That was when the Tories were busy waffling through less than. Using (and letting) to amend the Constitution—peace—and creating the Goods and Services Tax. Christen, now in his third term, has, well, he's balanced the budget and did mention the budget-balancing fund?

## Overbites

"There I am with a shirt that has actually been digitally altered to go to just below my chest, with a stomach that I don't recognize."

-**Belly Bustada** cleans the crop top and here belly she sports on the cover of British men's magazine ITMF are not here

"Where can you find a morning news anchor who's provocative, super-casual and oh, yeah, just a little sexy?"  
—A CNN ad, which refers to anchorman **Paula Zahn** and is accompanied by the sound of a zipper being pulled last week. Zahn was offended by the ad.







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## This fresher's life

The year the world turned upside down, I saw the ivory tower inside out. Friends and family envied me, three years seclusion in Oxford's academic bubble was a gripping idyll at a time when the world became so threatening. What better refuge than the fabled 'dreaming spire'—of the oldest English-language university—a self-defining entity which has for centuries stood in comfortable, confident isolation?

Before I moved to England last October, my experience of Lincoln College at Oxford had been limited to two pre-acceptance interviews with the bursary team and a three-night stay in the ramshackle Mews, a former inn that housed Oscar Wilde as a student and, according to local lore, Shakespeare. A year later, now a first-year modern history student, I am comfortably installed in a very different part of the college—a single room on suite, overlooking the warden's garden, complete with high-speed Internet access.

Within days of my arrival, I find myself wandering in procession through cobbled streets to the matriculation ceremony. We are welcomed to the university, in Latin, by the vice-chancellor before being the pub. The first term—and our Oxford careers—has begun. As cruise missiles rain down on Afghanistan, we 'freshers' worry about how to make sense of the Bodleian library, which holds an underground collection of every book ever published in the United Kingdom. While politicians debate diplomatic and military strategy, we discuss the relative merits of the Oxford and Cambridge debating techniques.

Of course, we don't forget any of our time. Before long my tastes are demanding: essays on pages handwritten in cursive, Pausanias' explication of the Olympic Games and Whig-polemical essays. Aside from tutorials, library studies are offered, no formal interaction. Instead, we read. And read. We attend lectures delivered by the whole range of academic personalities, from the overly to the marginally hairy. Essays are discussed at weekly tutorials and there is no place to hide; you quickly learn the breadth of your ignorance on any given topic. These weekly essays, however, are not merely bombarding; they are also stimulating, revealing and, at times, highly amusing. One tutor expounds on the political significance of roast beef; another discusses her study with pictures of the house to which the dedicated her come on 'Blackie' England.

The student body has no slouches of academic personalities, too. Many elite undergraduates go to great pains to emulate the mannerisms of Wagh's noble Sebastian Flyte, while others

finess the manner of manner of Trilley's Fide. Carbury One chap is a rugby star by day, virtuoso violinist by night. Another has a horrid basket carrying in his room. Several freshers have begun writing books. Despite the pressure of work—or perhaps because of it—there is always time for fun. We shed our 190—about approximately \$200—for balls which include seven-course dinners. Pub games reveal hidden talents. At Christmas parties we keep muddled wine in the bathroom sink, one overpriced girl even runs a pheasant.

Yet nonstop, classes and character are still realities. Foreigners sometimes find themselves at the receiving end of surprising ignorance—more than once I am asked, in complete seriousness, what the word is in Canada besides snow. The ivory tower can be suffocating, and it is no wonder that some crack

under the pressure. The student papers are vicious in their pursuit of Chelsea Clinton. Indeed, politics pervades every level of student life. Will Stone, son of Britain's foreign secretary, is elected president of the student union, a post with a remuneration of £15,000—approximately \$35,000—and a year's sabbatical from his studies.

Not all are so lucky; our fellow international students will rue how isolating he found the first term. But I wonder if that is not true for every first-term freshman, anywhere. Still, the way of learning at Oxford is particularly solitary and self-motivated. Most students use a staircase system to attend to protect students' privacy and preserve a monastic quality to daily life—which can be as lonely as it is liberating. Partly because of this, I do my best to take advantage of all the other activities the university has to offer—taking fencing classes, playing on my college basketball team (I am the only girl), performing in a play and music recital. Through rehearsing, my first term is highly rewarding.

At a time when so much remains uncertain in the wider world, the ivory tower does not seem such a bad place to be. Yet, many do want to avoid let of time on trivials—undergraduates in Chris Church are lobbying to move one of the quads into a nearby garden. And it is a bubble, but what university isn't? All things considered, it is a bubble of wonderfully curious and varied challenges, opportunities and experiences. Being on second term.

Trilly Kent of Toronto is surrounded around Oxford at 'Trilly from the Fresh North'.

# The Week That Was



## This is winter?

January's miserably warm weather has either lulled or tormented Canadians across the country. Heavy rains forced several families living on Vancouver Island to leave their homes, while on the B.C. mainland others had to flee a mudslide that briefly closed the Trans-Canada Highway near Hope. Southern Alberta is probably free of snow and temperatures reached 12° C in Regina, smacking old broadcasters. (Further east, Ottawa's

Rideau Canal was closed to skaters while ice reporters in the Wisconsin hovered around the freezing point.

## Smoking gun

French commandos uncovered 63 tonnes of weapons they said were being smuggled into Palestinian territory prompting the Israeli government to accuse Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat of being involved in the scheme. While Arafat denied any knowledge of the arms, U.S. President George W. Bush said

he suspected the weapons were going to be used to foment a tiny campaign to derail peace efforts. Meanwhile, two men in Palestinian police uniforms burst into an Israeli army gear near the Gaza Strip, killing four soldiers before being shot dead. Israel retaliated by tearing up a runway in Gaza and detaining nine Palestinian suspected of weapons smuggling.

## Zimbabwe's new rules

Robert Mugabe forced through

emergency measures to clamp down on the opposition in the run-up to the March presidential elections. The new laws give police sweeping powers to jail opposition activists. Lawmakers also looked set to enact legislation prohibiting foreign correspondents from applying in Zimbabwe and forcing local journalists to apply for licenses, curtailing revelations would carry a two-year prison sentence. Concomitant foreign ministers meeting in London in late January will

discuss possible responses, including suspending the African nation's membership.

## Indigo booked

Heather Reisman's engine grew part of itself after a divorce passed for sailing off 23 of her chapters and Indigo bookstores. There were no takers, so CEO Reisman will move the call on which outlets to get rid of. After Reisman, founder of the Indigo Books & Music Inc. chain, took over last Christmas Inc. last year, the federal Competition Bureau issued 23 stores a demand to be put up for sale. Indigo last week said it has since closed four superstores and is looking at another six or seven—not necessarily those on the bureau's list.

## Moncton ripple effect

Moncton, N.B. city council voted in favour of year-round Sunday shopping, a move the provincial government must still approve. The vote caused ripples across the Maritimes where weekend store openings are still prohibited, prompting P.E.I. tourism minister to suggest it may be time for the province to consider the move during tourist season. However, Nova Scotia Premier John Harris indicated his opposition to Sunday shopping.

## Ford cuts back

Ford Motor Co. announced it would cut 35,000 jobs worldwide by mid-December and close five North American plants, including a truck assembly operation in Oakville, Ont., employing 1,500 people. The closures, implemented on the same day as Canada's monthly employment report, was jumped to eight per cent, from 7.5 per cent, will be phased in according to union contracts—some one year away for Oakville.

## Baby David

Grady Brinkley, 31, who was five months pregnant when her husband David Michael Brinkley died in a tropical rainforest on the World Trade Center gave birth to a healthy seven-pound, six-ounce boy. She named the child—born to be the first birth to a survivor of any of the 24

disasters that struck on Sept. 11—for his father, a 34-year-old Toronto investment banker who was visiting a bond trading firm on the 105th floor of the north tower when the first plane struck.

## The Enron scandal

The announcement of George W. Bush came under sudden siege in the wake of the December collapse of Enron Corp., a secretive energy trading firm and Americas seventh largest company. As the justice department started a criminal probe and five congressional committees,

announced hearings as others Bush tried to distance his administration from revelations that Vice-President Dick Cheney and other officials held numerous meetings with Enron as energy policy and the possibility of a major takeover.

Enron was Bush's largest campaign contributor. Enron's auditors, Arthur Andersen LLP, also admitted that its people had destroyed significant numbers of Enron documents. The company went bankrupt when a potential merger partner walked away after taking a close look at Enron's notoriously obscure financial numbers. A handful of top executives sold about \$1 billion (U.S.) of company stock before the price collapsed. At the same time, thousands of employees were barred from selling their shares and lost savings, and retirement accounts.



## The trials of hockey, both sad and silly

The hockey-related court cases—one tragic, one trivial—played out in the United States and Canada. In Cambridge, Mass., a jury concluded a hockey dad of involuntary manslaughter in the brutal death of another parent's son, as a homicide after practice in Jan. 2005. Thomas Jenta, 44, a 270-pound tackle down, testified he struck Michael Coady, who weighed about 180 pounds, less than three times after a practice. Coady died suddenly about a practice. Coady had supervised. But the prosecution argued Jenta punched the much lighter son repeatedly and stomped his head on the ground until he became unconscious. The hearing led to some internal bleeding and

Coady's death. Several children, including both sons, were on the ice. Jenta was sentenced to 20 years when he is sentenced on Jan. 26. As for the Canadian case, it boiled down to a debate about the rights of property owners versus a popular site of passage. Road hockey was a justice of the peace decision in a Hamilton woman's charge against Gary Kotter who she claimed had repeatedly broken a city bylaw banning street sports. Judge Clarke said Kotter and his four sons frequently rehearsed his fall that ended up in her garden. But Kotter claimed, "It is harmless" and "my son's head is not on the ground." The hearing led to some internal bleeding and

Smith's death. George Hargrove Black, a brother of actor Brad Pitt, was a director of Hollister Inc. and Toronto-Dominion Bank, 81, died of cancer in Toronto.

## Passages

### Appointed: James Bartman

62, currently head of the Mission of Canada to the European Union, has been named Ontario's 27th lieutenant-governor. A member of the Maykeny First Nation near Grillo, he will become the first aboriginal to hold the position in the province.



### Writing: Altering 11 years

George Carey is stepping down as the 13th Archbishop of Canterbury in October 2005, who leads 70 million Anglicans worldwide, the English church, through the ordination of women.

### Died: In 1969, hamburger lover

Dave Thomas opened the first Wendy's restaurant—named after his daughter—in Columbus, Ohio and later became famous for appearing in his own TV commercials. In 2005, Wendy's merged with Canada's Tim Hortons. Thomas, 66, died of liver cancer at his home in Florida.

### Hired: Larry Cifl

Commissioner Scott Smith, 50, is leaving his post as president of the Montreal Canadiens to become publisher of the Gazette. The former Alouettes running back began at Montreal's English language daily newspaper in February.

### Charged: The Ontario Securities

Commission has accused financial guru Brian Gosselin of failing to disclose his ownership in a company that made money from stocks he promoted. It also alleges that Gosselin acted as an adviser without being properly registered.

### Died: Financial: George Hargrove

Black, a brother of actor Brad Pitt, was a director of Hollister Inc. and Toronto-Dominion Bank, 81, died of cancer in Toronto.

## It's official—Day wants his old job back

Steven Day did all the expected by announcing he will run to replace the job he was forced to quit last year, leader of the Canadian Alliance. What was surprising was his willingness to fight out all the shouting with his character in the battle he lost with Stephen Harper, his main rival, in stark

terms that suggest a bitter split emerging on the political right. Day told Maclean's he was "bigger" trying to negotiate social conservatives. "Social conservatives will not have to sit at the back of the political bus in a Canadian Alliance where I am leader," Day declared.



The terms would be conservative in style, but in substance right-wing, including opposition to globalization and social conservatives. Day was active in causing his own party's defeat and creating a backlash for religious private schools, Harper, a former

Liberal MP, is usually associated with the wing of the Alliance that stresses free-market economic policy over those free-market social issues. But so were we a major source of support for Day when he was the party's 2000 leadership race.

Read the interview with Steven Day at [www.macleans.ca](http://www.macleans.ca)

# An ethics controversy swirls around the public works minister



Belonged boss Gagliano

Jean Charest, holidaying in Florida last week, must have had trouble concentrating on his golf swing. Back home, his Quebec political boss and public works minister was in trouble—and long-answered questions about his government's ethics were back on the ball. The charges of improper political interference against Alfonso Gagliano, 56, came from Ken Scott, former chairman of Canada Lands Co., a government corporation with the sensitive role of selling off surplus federal real estate. Scott told a Toronto newspaper that Gagliano asked him to hire an old friend and political supporter Tony Miguens and the minister's office generally meddling in Canada Lands

operations in Quebec. "The rest of Canada is yours," Scott said he was once told by Gagliano's chief of staff. "Quebec is ours."

Gagliano denied he had done anything wrong. The veteran Montreal MP said he had merely recommended Miguens for a job, and rejected the claim that he or his aides tried to influence Canada Lands decisions. Howard Wilson, the federal ethics councillor, said he won't investigate—because he's already told the Prime Minister how the ethics code governing ministers ought to be enforced.

Charest's office didn't deal with the details of the controversy, but said the Prime Minister remains confident of Gagliano. Opposition critics, of course, called for

Gagliano's resignation. But Charest has a long track record of standing by ministers who come under fire. The thinking of this upper crust could play a cabinet shuffle. Charest was rumored to be planning to assign some ministers this month, perhaps sending Gagliano into retirement or a patronage job. Now, doing so might be interpreted as an admission that a blarney Charest why has become a political liability—a message the Prime Minister will be hard to send.

In fact, the specific points raised by Scott, new chairman of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, are far from the only questions surrounding Gagliano's department. The federal Auditor General has repeatedly criticized the way Public Works and

Government Services Canada has done business in recent years, taking the department to task for not putting more consulting contracts up for competitive open bids—leaving the selection of those to do work for the department open to "political or bureaucratic favour." More broadly, the practice of patronage remains firmly entrenched throughout the government. The latest directory of Governor-in-Council appointments—federal jobs prime ministers have personally used to reward friends—lists 2,249 such positions, often only slightly less than when the Liberals took power as a problem that plagued the "laxest for making" "a practice of choosing political friends" for such posts.

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The 8am All Music Hour



Peter C. Newman

## Watch out if you're over 30

**T**he well-known social critic Mae Whitman may have had the New Economy in mind when she whined and told an interviewer, "Too much of a good thing can be wonderful."

Obviously, she wasn't holding any shares in Norad. While the end of the New Economy, as defined by its high-tech implications, came suddenly, with no individual fortune large enough or investment house powerful enough to hold back the market sell-off, its mortality has survived. The e-commerce sector may have tanked, but its legacy is an extension of the high-tech revolution that gave it birth. A "New, New Economy" will emerge in the months ahead, as the expanded economy takes hold.

Canadian business will increasingly operate according to a gospel based less on transaction than on spend. Change within the corporate sector is coming so rapidly that anyone asking

to finally think of Netscape as a basketball team, opportunities on offense, attacks on defense. Then I can be the coach."

This flight from the notion of the boss as corporate father figure is at the heart of the new way of doing business. "Much of our society still remains patriarchal-driven," points out Paul Ransome, the Stanford University economist who has become chief guru of the New, New Economy. "In that it is premised on the 000000 that respect and compensation should improve over the course of your lifetime. We are moving to a time where the peak earning years occur before a person is 30 years old, after which he effectively retires. It's the pen and ink model, extended to everyone. In the past you might have thought of making a contribution through something that was truly permanent. You build the pyramid, and it'll be there forever. Now, what permanence means is to be a stopping cause that someone else uses, and they build on it in the future."

**The winners in the New Economy will be swift on both feet, terminally pragmatic, self-absorbed and lethal**

In other words, corporate loyalty isn't worth the paper it's not written on. Canada's business elite used to be linked through common bonds of privilege, marked strictly by seniority, just hanging in guaranteed success. The New, New Economy will instead be propelled by such deal or opportunity, the skyrocketing venture of the moment. The corporate winners will be swift on both feet, terminally pragmatic, self-absorbed and lethal. They will exhibit the nerves of high-wire acrobats, driven as much by fear of failure as the quest for success. It is reputational power that will triumph over time. Success will be measured by how many pressed corporate players remember your telephone number or e-mail address, so you can beat rivals to the entrance of the bear deal.

Ironically, the New, New Economy will be driven by the Internet, the idealistic power source of the original e-commerce revolution. It didn't maximize its impact mainly because few of its users could figure out how to make the Web profitable. Once the Net becomes recognized as the ultimate expression of convergence, few will be able to avoid converging in its future, or paying hard cash for its services. "The Internet will eventually absorb radio, TV, personal computers, telephones, cameras and zip singers," according to U.S. futurist George Gilder. "More value will move across its Web pages daily than will be carried by all of the world's super-telecom, pipelines, 18-wheel trucks and cargo ships."

At the chilly start of this chilly millennium's second year, most Canadian CEOs find themselves facing the dread choice of becoming victims by standing change, or outliving it by leading it.

In high-tech's heyday, profitability usually went out over technology—which was what eventually caused the bubble to burst. Now, it's smart money and nation that matter most. Klaus Schwab, president of the Davos World Economic Forum, said it best: "We have moved from a world where the big eat the small to a world where the fast eat the slow."

The eternal middle ground between arrogant and failure has become dangerously narrow. In the process, corporate power is being dispersed and decentralized, as competitors race for gold. Increasingly, the data that drive enterprises are more readily available to the fast-moving underdog than to their managers than to less accessible, often unsubsided CEOs. This trend is undermining the military-like command structures of traditional corporations.

It pays to be curious and alert at lower corporate ranks because success no longer requires apprenticeship. Instead of following patronizing manager instructions, all that counts now is who can move rapidly enough to beat the competition. One of the few executives in step with the new trend has been consultant Jim Bakula, who, in 1997 as president of communications giant Netscape, told a group of investors "We're not a family at Netscape. It would mean I was the dad. Instead of

## COLLISION COURSE

Ralph Klein is ready to rumble after a controversial health-care report

The son of a professional wrestler, Ralph Klein has never been one to shy away from a political fight. And last week, the Alberta premier ignited Ottawa's hot ready to rumble over the thorny issue of health-care reform. Klein usually endorses a tough-fixer report headed by former deputy prime minister Don Mazankowski that contains sweeping changes in the way health care would be delivered and funded in Alberta—and, by extension, in the rest of the country.

Among other things, Mazankowski calls on the province to establish a panel of experts to determine which medical procedures or drugs should be publicly covered or debated. His report presents several options for generating alternative sources of funding, including "medical savings accounts," whereby individual sub would be given a set amount to spend on health care each year and could be added to pay for part of any amounts exceeding that limit. Mazankowski also favours an increased role for the private sector, also in Alberta's highly controversial Bill 11, introduced in the spring of 2000, which, for the first time, allowed some private clinics in the province to perform surgical procedures requiring overnight stays.

Although some medicine defenders sharply criticized the Mazankowski report, Ottawa's response was notably muted. Health Minister Allan Rock welcomed what he called the report's "very useful" ideas, while urging Klein and other premiers not to proceed with major reforms until a federal royal commission on health care headed by Roy Romanow reports in November. Klein, who has promised his government's decided response to the Mazankowski report before the end of this month, has no intention of handing Rock's advice. In an exclusive interview last week with Maclean's Calgary Bureau Chief Brian Bergman, the premier explained why—and also answered questions about his new life of sobriety. *Excerpt.*

**Maclean's:** This report has just forwarded a lot of options, but the ball is now in your court.

**Klein:** How bold are you prepared to be?

**Klein:** We're prepared to be very bold. I can tell you, in principle, we will probably accept this report as a package. Some recommendations, such as setting up the experts panel, we can begin almost immediately. Others will take longer to implement.

**Maclean's:** In your view, is universal medicine dead?

**Klein:** The concept of universality is not dead. That is one of the fundamental aspects of the Canada Health Act, and I firmly believe in the concept. In other words, any person travelling from one part of the country to another, and who happens to get sick or injured, should expect to get treated under a publicly funded health-care scheme.

**Maclean's:** OK, but what about comprehensive?

**Klein:** That's a different issue. Again, it's one of the principles in the Canada Health Act and we believe fundamentally in the principle of comprehensiveness. But what does it mean? To some, it means everything, from an ingrown toenail or a minor wrinkle to something as major as cancer or heart disease.

**Maclean's:** What does it mean to you?

**Klein:** It means something that is reasonable. That people who are truly sick or injured should have access to the system. **Maclean's:** Is it your view that Alberta and Ontario will be on a collision course over the province set up an "experts panel" to decide what care will be covered and what will not?

**Klein:** Yep, that will undoubtedly be the trigger.

**Maclean's:** Are you willing to challenge Ontario on the Canada Health Act and face the consequences?

**Klein:** Yes, as a matter of fact I am. **Maclean's:** The Mazankowski panel is already being met by opinion such as the medical savings account. But at some point, aren't there simply a lot on the table? Don't they mean that if people who are all across the system never meet their neighbours they

may end up having to pay more?

**Klein:** Quite possibly. It's all a matter of how it's implemented. And we haven't come to that point yet. But the idea is intriguing.

**Maclean's:** But is it a tie on the table?

**Klein:** People can call it what they want. The simple fact is that no matter how we deal with health-care costs, it's a tax. It's a tax to pay for people who are sick or injured.

**Maclean's:** Many of the recommendations are aimed at encouraging people to use the health system responsibly. Do you believe many people abuse or misuse the system?

**Klein:** That's been identified as one of the problems. It's what *often* it happens. I really don't know.

**Maclean's:** Mazankowski has said he can see a larger role for the private sector, along the lines of Bill 11, as long as it's part of a publicly administered, publicly funded health-care system. Do you share that view?

**Klein:** I share that view, certainly.

**Maclean's:** Bill 11 provoked a storm of protest in this province and across the country. But compared with what's on the table now, Bill 11 was pretty modest stuff. What kind of outcry do you expect this time?

**Klein:** Well, typically those with particular political views don't like it. You know [Manitoba Premier] Gary Doer says the proposed health reforms wouldn't do for Manitoba, but the "Americanization" of health care is not the best solution. Well, it's not Americanization. But that is a criticism among New Democrats.

**Maclean's:** During the Bill 11 uproar, you lashed out at Allan Rock for conducting a "show-by-stone" after he came to Alberta and criticized the legislation. How is your relationship with Canada's health minister these days?

**Klein:** It's amazing how a person changes during or just before an election. Clearly what Allan Rock was doing at that time was political, to target Alberta. Now that the Liberals have a significant mandate, the rhetoric has toned down considerably.



The Alberta premier talks openly about his plans for the province—read about himself.

**Maclean's:** Rock is now saying persons are to engage in personal reforms until Romanow reports. Why are you ignoring that advice?

**Klein:** All Canadians must understand that, notwithstanding the principles of the Canada Health Act, the province has the constitutional responsibility to deliver health care. Not the feds. Also, hear my fear: If Romanow does recommend significant reforms, once his report reaches Ottawa, and the bureaucracy, none of us will live long enough to see the outcome.

That's why we have to move.

**Maclean's:** Mr. Premier, if I may be allowed a question that is off topic, a lot of Canadians were struck by your comment when you publicly observed last month to a 30-year-old pregnant woman and asked to deal with it. How are you feeling now about that decision and the reaction to it?

**Klein:** People have been very supportive. There have been literally thousands of e-mails, faxes and letters. One thing I've found out is that I'm not the only one out

there with a problem. I had a hell of a tober-ter, I really do. It's awful to get up with a hangover and know you have to go through a day and you have certain obligations. Now I can get up fresh in the morning.

**Maclean's:** Do you wish you had done it sooner?

**Klein:** You know, I've thought about it so many times. I think what made it work this time is that I admitted to the world I have the problem. I would never make the admission before.



Troops are going to Afghanistan, but critics say it is only a token gesture to be in a dispersed military

# Canada's glory days

During the height of the Cold War, we had real influence. What went wrong?

BY SEAN M. MALONEY

Within days of Sept. 11, Ottawans faced the question, what, if anything, would Canada's military contribution to the U.S.-led war on terrorism amount to? The first part of the answer came on Oct. 8, when Defence Minister Art Eggleton announced that five Canadian warships would sail to the Arabian Sea to guard the flank of U.S. aircraft carriers launching strikes against Taliban forces and Al-Qaeda training camps in Afghanistan. But convincing ground forces posed a more difficult problem: was Canada's beleaguered military capable of deploying troops to Afghanistan? Last week, after initial reports that Canadian soldiers might be part of a 5,000-strong and mostly European peacekeeping force in Kabul, Eggleton adopted a tougher stance, committing nearly 800

combat-ready soldiers, primarily from the Edmonton-based Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, to duty in the former Taliban stronghold of Kandahar. There, under U.S. command, they may join in the hunt for remaining Taliban and Al-Qaeda fighters and secret tracks carrying relief supplies.

The decision sparked a renewed debate about the state of the Canadian military. Some critics believe the coup, which will have to see equipment cannibalized from other Canadian battleships, are living on a dangerous mission for little pay—to disperse the fact that, as a result of underfunding, the military is falling apart. Others, like former foreign affairs minister Lloyd Austin, complain that the assignment, which is well beyond peacekeeping, will hurt the country's reputation for neutral-

ity. But Sean M. Maloney, a historian who teaches war studies at the Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston, Ont., argues that only by rebuilding the military and taking on tough combat missions will Canada be able to ensure its own security and regain the influence it once had in the world.

There is much that can be learned from Canada's participation in the Cold War period when the nation wielded global influence and made significant contributions to the security of the West. But what do Canadians think of when asked about the Cold War? Most believe it was something that occurred a long time ago, with little impact on Canada or its history. Some even believe that Canada was neutral from 1945 to the collapse of communism in the early 1990s. This is

not surprising, given the Canadian cultural shift tendency to downplay our involvement in the long struggle to contain the Soviet Union.

What many do not know is that this year marks the 51st anniversary of the deployment of Canadian soldiers in NATO's Integrated Force in Europe, a commitment that lasted 42 years. The army's arrival and may helped serve as a bulwark against Soviet intimidation and the nuclear threat from Moscow. These Canadian forces, equipped with both conventional and

Turkish-style rifles, fought both Greece and Turkey are members of the alliance) on the divided island of Cyprus, a location critical to deterring Soviet moves in the Mediterranean and Middle East.

We received a large measure of security—said, recognition—by helping keep NATO strong with our military commitment. Even the 1957 Nobel Peace Prize that then-foreign minister Lester B. Pearson received for helping end the Suez Crisis was due in part to the strength of the Canadian army, which allowed it to



Raising the flag while on peacekeeping assignment in Cyprus, 1964: the Aero Arrow

American-supplied nuclear weapons, provided the basis for unparalleled Canadian global influence that, after the military started to long decline in the 1970s, we have been unable to regain.

During the Cold War, our diplomats corps took the lead in brokering solutions to global crises. The best-known was the Suez Crisis of 1956, when Canadian-led coalition soldiers were deployed to prevent the escalation of the Anglo-French invasion of Egypt into a nuclear conflict. The Soviets threatened to fire nuclear missiles at Paris and London if the Europeans did not leave the country. But the Canadians, operating under the UN flag, kept the competing armies apart, and the crisis passed.

Lesser-known was the 1961 Berlin Crisis. Canadian diplomats, with other Allies, convinced the Kennedy administration to pull back from forcing NATO to accept a series of dangerous nuclear options that could have triggered a nuclear exchange over the divided city of Berlin.

And in 1964, Canada, the United States and Britain, operating as a team, successfully prevented NATO from collapsing over ethnic Greek

and Turkish violence. Both Greece and Turkey are members of the alliance) on the divided island of Cyprus, a location critical to deterring Soviet moves in the Mediterranean and Middle East.

What major international crises have Canadian diplomats taken the lead in lately? Why is there any surprise when the Americans become overmaneuvered and fishing rights—after Canada declined to participate effectively in the 1991 Gulf War, where the army was reduced to guarding oilfields and the CF-18 fighter jet was used almost exclusively in a defensive capacity? And after Ottawa expelled NATO in 1983 by withdrawing Canadian soldiers assigned to the alliance in Germany, claiming that with the end of the Cold War the troops were no longer needed?

In fact, by the 1990s, when Canadian military leaders were globally respected and wielded significant influence, particularly Gen. Charles Foulkes as NATO commander, Air Marshal Roy Slemmon in Norway, and Gen. E. J. M. (Gerry) Burtin in the area of UN peacekeeping

and disarmament. These three men took the lead in formulating and influencing alliance strategy and used Canada's significant military contributions as their entry into those corridors of power. The fact that these efforts were co-ordinated with those of Canada's professional diplomats, specifically Pearson, Robert Foul (ambassador to the Soviet Union) and John Holmes (head of the foreign affairs department's UN division), is an effort to protect Canadian global interests, despite volumes about the sophisticated outlook Canada had during a time of enormous danger.

Canada would not have had such influence if it wasn't for the military, which was backed by an advanced aerospace industry that designed, built and sold F-86 Sabre fighters, jet aircraft to precisely every member of NATO. There is simply no comparison today: consumer jets, and propeller aircraft far as in the bush, are not instruments of influence. The CF-105 Aero Arrow affair has even assumed mythic proportions, though many are unaware of the Cold War context in which the program was conceived. Canada wanted to defend itself against a very real nuclear threat, while at the same time bringing something effective to the table to protect Canadian sovereignty in the North partnership. But that view was not shared by prime minister John Diefenbaker's Tory government, and in 1959 he suddenly cancelled the program, claiming it was too costly and had no military over budget.

The loss of the Aero Arrow may have hurt the military's prestige. But nuclear weapons were the currency necessary to wield influence, and the government had a secret program to construct the weapons in Canada. If the U.S. denied the nation access to them, but that was not even seriously considered by Washington, as of 1958 American policy was to give Canada virtually unlimited access to whatever weapons the country needed, as disclosed in American National Security Council records reveal.

And with squadrons of CF-101 Voodoo interceptors equipped with MB-1 Genie nuclear rockets and the conventional surface-to-air Bomarc and bomber missiles, Canadian sovereignty was assured. Although Diefenbaker also publicly opposed these weapons, the military rightly boasted that it could destroy a Soviet bomber attack and in the same time not run over control of Canadian airspace to American fighters. Air Marshal Roy Slemmon, the



## Canada and the World

deputy commander-in-chief of NORAD, was the only non-American to command and control American nuclear forces. He even had the authority to release nuclear weapons in an emergency, such as that posed by the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, without direct verbal instructions from the American president. Indeed, Canadian ships and planes armed with nuclear weapons helped to protect Boston and New York City from Soviet submarines at the height of the crisis, when the bulk of American naval forces were conducting the blockade around Cuba.

Canadian forces were deeply respected by their allies—and their enemies. The Soviet believed Canada's 5,000-man brigade in Germany was as effective as a Soviet 20,000-man armoured division, particularly when equipped with nuclear weapons. They even mounted an espionage campaign to trick the RCAF's CF-104 nuclear strike force. At sea, the navy's St. Laurent-class destroyers, the aircraft carrier HMCS Bonaventure and the RCAF's Canadair-built Avrocar maritime patrol aircraft en-

sured that Soviet missile-launching submarines operating near North America were tracked and targeted with nuclear anti-submarine weapons.

Canada's military muscle would soon weaken, but that process did not start in the 1990s, even though *Austerity* and others who support "soft power" contributed to the decline. The slide began under prime minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau's leadership in the 1970s, which, when coupled with the *enquete* dismissiveness of his national security adviser, produced "near-out" in the Canadian Forces. Badly run down, they drifted from their military focus to conducting fisheries patrols or counting caribou in the Arctic. The new economy in an era of "flexible response" saw NATO shift from an emphasis on nuclear capabilities to improving and expanding conventional forces equipped with precision-guided weapons. But the Trudeau government was unwilling to fund that.

And so the descent into irrelevancy started, for a country that, during the Cold

War, had not been just another adjunct to a blue-helmed, would-be world government. The UN and NATO were Canada's to use for its own interests, not the other way around. Canadians were part of a colossal effort to win the Cold War, yet who has heard of these events or the people at the forefront? What Canadian history text mentions them? One of the legacies of this world ignorance of 50 years of history is the conclusion that prevails today, the uncertainty over where Canada fits into the world, and the possibility that it is becoming a bystander nation. Influence, and its benefits, means effective involvement and sacrifice, nothing less. Our Cold War history can help us understand how to achieve those things again.

*Sean M. Mulvey is the author of several books, including Canada and UN Peacekeeping: Cold War by Other Means, 1945-1970 and Learning to Love the North-Canadian Cold War Strategy and Nuclear Weapons, 1945-1968, both to be published soon.*

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## Business

Tim Hortons is building a national chain and wants to go international



# QUEEN OF CREPES

Watch out, Tim Hortons. Here comes Cora, Quebec's breakfast tycoon

BY JOHN IVINS

While two cooks feverishly slice fresh fruit to the kitchen, a small army of waiters in the dining room fulfills in anticipation of the breakfast rush. Although the Mississauga, Ont., location has only been open to the public for an hour, it's anything like the opening of other Cora franchises, the 140 were could fill in minutes.

They don't. Other than a few early birds, the newly minted all-breakfast restaurant, specializing in fruit-filled crepes and omelettes, is

empty. Sitting in one of the booth's reading newspapers is Cora Tim Hortons, the hard-driving brains behind the operation. She is unfazed by the silence. "We have to wait until people find us," says the 54-year-old grandmother, who travelled from her home near Montreal for the occasion last month. "When I open a store in Quebec, it's filled that day. I know it would be tougher in Ontario, but they'll come. It's only a matter of time."

Tim Hortons has good reason to be confident. Since she opened her first store 15 years ago, 51 franchises of her family-oriented breakfast chain, Cora's

déjeuner, have popped up across Quebec's dining landscape. These outlets generated \$40 million in revenue last year (and broke 4.4 million eggs). Now that Quebec is well covered, Tim Hortons has set her eyes on the rest of Canada, under the name Cora's. "When I think of Cora's, I don't think of the 51 stores I have in Quebec," she says. "I think of the 200 I want to do in Canada. I want to become a national chain and after that I want to be international." That will be no small feat for an outfit best at selling crepes, not pancakes, to the wider Canadian public—and which insists on closing at 3 p.m. But few who know her





# THE LOST CHILDREN

Doukhobor children were taken from their homes to guarded schools

BY KEN MACQUEEN

It was a winter morning in 1956 when the police came for Walter Swetschhoff and his big brother, Sidney. Held known, with the dread certainty of a seven-year-old's fears, that this day would come. What he couldn't figure was... why? Even now, nine years spent sorting the sleep shards of his memory, he has no answer. At 54, he appreciates—on an intellectual level—that he was a victim, not a criminal, during those crazy times. There were 154 children like him, Doukhobors from the mountainous Kootenay region of British Columbia, who were hunted down and locked away. They were guilty only of obeying their parents, he says. Knowing this does not ease his pain.

The children were caught between state and church in a bizarre and still-unsettled chapter of the province's history, cradled between the uncompromising stance of W. A. C. Bennett's Social Credit government, on one hand, and the religious extremism of their parents on the other. They were members of the Sons of Freedom, a radical anti-government branch of the Doukhobors, a Russian religious sect that fled to Canada in 1899 to escape persecution.

Settling first in the Prairies, about 5,000 Freedomites moved to British Columbia in 1906. Virtually from their arrival, they earned the enmity of neighbors by their virulent refusal to accept government authority, or to assimilate into Canadian society. They dynamited bridges and railway tracks, burned homes and schools and staged naked parades to show their disdain for material goods and secular ways.

In 1953, they burned an astonishing 400 homes in the Kootenay region, some of their own, others belonging to increasingly fearful members of the larger community. Bennett got tough. He attacked the Freedomites' concept for public education with a draconian enforcement of compulsory school attendance laws. That fall, fearing Freedomites might disrupt local schools and hide their children from

truant officers, authorities apprehended more than 100 boys and girls—and bused them to a fenced and guarded residential school in a former tuberculosis sanatorium at New Denver, deep in B.C.'s scenic Selkirk Mountains.

When the RCMP arrived, Walter and Sidney, who was 10, dove for the low crawl space under the family's home outside the Doukhobor enclave of Kootenay. The police dragged Sidney out by his front leg. Walter, scared and motionless, lay on his back beneath the cedar beams, curling into the only nest where the family dog slept. They poked at him with poles, fired off a tear-gas canister and brandished frantic parents. Walter would not be moved. It was war.

He felt safe—developed in a sense of security that has eluded him since. "I remember that," he says, "and the smell of the dog."

Walter was left behind. The police delivered Sidney to New Denver, to part of the same outgrowth used more than a decade earlier for some of the thousands of Japanese-Canadian children who were interned during the Second World War, in another case of guilt by association.

The children slept in bleak barracks-like dormitories. Corporal punishment was regularly meted out. Allegations of sexual and physical abuse persist today. Those were no holidays, and some children stayed as long as six years, until their release at age 15. Family visits, conducted through the mesh of the schools' wire fence, were limited to one hour, every second Sunday.

In a May, 1957, edition of *Maclean's*, writer Sidney Katz did a heart-breaking profile of New Denver, and "the lost children of British Columbia." He described a Sunday visit: "Some are trying to kiss through the wire mesh, others look silently at each other, tears running down their cheeks. Bundles of food and clothes are passed over the fence to children while bull-dozed RCMP officers look on. If a

member of the dormitory staff should happen to appear, an enraged father strikes his fist at him, shouting, 'Kidnapper! Beat! Give us back our children!'"

By avoiding capture, Walter Swetschhoff doomed himself to three years as a fugitive, running from house to house, hiding in sheds or forest cabins. When he was finally caught, in a police roadblock set up to capture truanters, his nerves were shattered and he suffered from chronic migraines. He was 10 years old.

He enrolled as a student, having already schooled himself as a fugitive with old books and stacks of *Left* magazines. Here, in those terrible days, the course of his career, the one-time truant is today a high-

school teacher. Yet he blames the New Denver school for many things. For disavowing his brother, who died at 39 after years of chronic alcohol abuse. For the subsequent guilt that caused his once-dominant father also to die of drink. For his own repressed emotions. His memories are an "open wound" of hard discipline, ruthless treatment and the electric thrill of teaching a lost parent through the mesh of the school fence. A good part of him remains locked behind chain links. "I want my life back," he says.

Swetschhoff is among 54 former students suing the province, seeking damages and an apology for what they claim was unlawful confinement, maltreatment, humiliation and deprivation. The trial is set for January, 2003, but a hearing will begin on Feb. 25 in provincial government attempts to have the case dismissed because of the delay in filing the claims.

Not all former students have joined the lawsuit. "To me, that is not a healing process," says Kathleen Mikosoff, 53, who was eight when police carried her away to New Denver. She was released in 1959, when the province closed the school. Everyone starved their own pain, the



Swetschhoff's memories are an "open wound"



Children see their parents every two weeks through wire mesh



At 12, Svetlitski attended a guarded school; he's the youngest in his family (below)



says. "Even though we all shared the experience together, each had their own reactions, that own emotional baggage that went with it."

She speaks after finishing her shift as a licensed practical nurse at the hospital and extended-care facility in New Denver. The complex where she works includes the very dormitory where she was confined for three years. Don't read deep

meaning into this, Makozoff warns. She took the job in 1989 because she was a single mom. She needed a steady paycheck and the dental plan.

Yet there are memories behind every door, in this attic, in a surviving portion of the fence that once kept Makozoff from her parents. Memories, good and bad, surface whenever at the odder corners. She copes with them as they arrive, convinced

they provide a piece of "continuous healing." Often, she knows, have spent a lifetime trying to avoid the past. "When you stop making," she says, "everything behind you catches up and you have to deal with it."

The past lives in a flickering flame. In October, Mary Braun—at 81, the last of the Fredonians—died in a Nelson, B.C., courtroom and calmly accepted a six-year prison sentence for an act of arson, one of many she's committed over the decades. This time, in a pathetic echo of another age, she'd burned a community college building.

The lost children struggle to heal. "Who was at fault?" Their parents, who were as mild and unyielding as Mary Braun? Or a Cold War-era government, which targeted these troublesome Braun children to crush the tremors of their parents? A 1999 report by then B.C. ombudsman Dulcie McCullum concluded the government failed these children. "They are, in my opinion, entitled to an explanation, an apology and compensation for their confinement in a form that permits them the opportunity to heal." But from apogee, the government has vigorously defended itself against the students' lawsuit. Its statement of defence calls the apprehensions "very distressing" to the children, but necessary to control "a wave of terrorism spanning 35 years."

In the government's view, New Denver was a success. "The children became fluent in the English language and acquired communication and other skills to enable them to obtain employment and advance themselves." The province further credits educational programs with "changing the children's hostile attitude towards government and engendered in them a respect for the laws of the country."

But Makozoff says the lawsuit shows the students' experience left many of them with no respect for the government. As it is, a court can't resolve the mistakes of the past. "What," she asks, "will give me back my childhood?" Instead, she wants a guarantee that children won't again suffer because of religion, ethnicity or the sins of others. To see Makozoff become target of retaliation after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks brought back ugly memories. "It doesn't take very much to inspire hate or fear," Makozoff insists. "Fear is the thing that causes the hate to happen."

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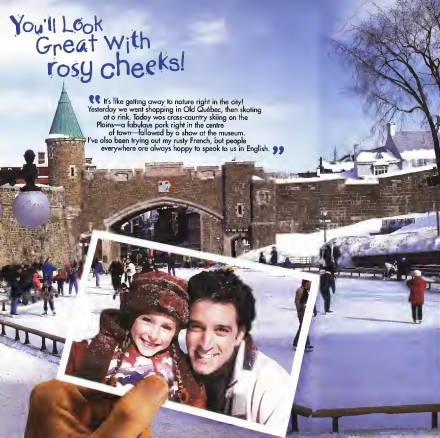
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## Cover



# THE HAPPY DIVORCE

## HOW TO BREAK UP AND MAKE UP

BY NORA UNDERWOOD

FOR a decade, Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman were Hollywood's pattern-warmers of marriage. When not giving celebrity interviews about how they were each other's best friend, they were raising their two children between them on sunny afternoon walks, posing in couture or sipping at film openings. Whatever really was, the marriage seemed like nothing out of a fairy tale. When it suddenly, to the rest of the world—there were predictions about how the divorce proceedings were going to be. Repeatedly there was a man behind the scenes, but in the Hollywood couple seemed

inexplicable, as perfectly as they'd been together. In a few hours one day last November, together at a final meeting with their lawyers, they handed out how their considerable assets would be split and how custody of the children would be arranged. They even parted ways with an embrace. "We are great friends," Cruise said of Kidman in an interview with *People* magazine shortly after their divorce was negotiated. "She is someone who I love and always will."

In a perfect world, we'd all so happily ever after with the people to whom we had pledged ourselves. Short of that, we'd divorce (as apparently amiable as Kidman and Cruise did). In reality, 36 per cent of Canadian

marriages are expected to end in divorce, a number that has remained relatively stable for decades, the average duration of a marriage that ends, according to Statistics Canada, is just under 14 years. (The oh-so-often statistic of almost one in two marriages failing is in fact American—the figure is 63 per cent.) According to Diana Shepherd, editor of Toronto-based *Divorce Magazine*, most North American couples manage to divorce in a civil way, only 10 per cent are the usual bitter feuds that are the stuff of tabloids and made-for-TV movies. "If there are children or a business involved, a friendly divorce is the only way to go," says Shepherd. "And sometimes month mean having to give your teeth



Moosy (holding a photo of her daughter's 1993 wedding; she's centre back and her first husband is back left) says she and her ex "have a bond"

a little bit and get on with it, let it go."

Until recently there has been little recourse for couples who wanted to avoid the notoriously adversarial legal process for divorce. But a growing number of people are seeking out mediators to help broker a peaceful final ending, or taking part in divorce ceremonies and rituals to help bring about emotional resolution. In addition, a kinder, gentler legal practice known as collaborative law, which started in the United States during the early 1990s, has moved north and is starting to spread through parts of Canada.

This evolution has been precipitated by a number of factors, not the least being the children of divorce. A growing body of research points decisively to the fact that kids have a much harder time adjusting to new family dynamics when their parents are bickering or engaged in full-scale war. "We did a video of children talking about the impact of divorce," says Rhonda Freeman, director of Families in Transition for the

Family Service Association of Toronto. "A nine-year-old in the film said, with a very quizzical look on her face, 'If parents choose to live apart, why do they need to keep fighting?' There is also strong evidence," Freeman says, that the kids who do best are the ones who feel free to have positive relationships with both parents—particularly parents who have moved on in their own lives. "And that includes ending the conflict," adds Freeman. "Because while you're involved in the conflict, you just don't have the emotional energy at the time to devote to your children."

Martin and Deborah (whose full names are given, people cited have been given pseudonyms on request) met when they were 12, got married eight years later, started a retail business together, and raised two children. But 10 years ago, after two decades of marriage, each became involved with someone else. For the sake of the kids (now grown and away from home), as much as for their own, the Christian couple decided to continue cohabiting—they have never divorced. "I think it's possible that people can go in different directions sometimes without

losing the love for the person," explains Martin, who still lives with Deborah and the man Deborah fell in love with a decade ago. "The fact that it hasn't worked out exactly right doesn't mean you should lose sight of what brought you together in the first place."

These are usually other qualities when a long-term relationship breaks up, but Martin and Deborah have managed to maintain positive connections with each other's families as well as with all their friends. And while the community has never fully adjusted to the couple's decision to continue living together, it was best for the kids. "For them it was better than living separately," says Deborah. "They found it difficult to explain to their friends, but their friends all grew to really care about us and all of the weird stuff that people thought was going on was forgiven. Our daughter told us she's really proud of us."

While Martin knew internally the new arrangement was for the best, it still took her about five years to feel completely comfortable with it emotionally. "But I was lucky that her partner was a person I found to be a very good man, who understood how it would be difficult for me for the love of my life to be with a different person," Martin, meanwhile, has had relationships: one girlfriend even joined the family for a while, but that was friction with Deborah over parenting issues. Overall, says Martin, the struggle was worth it. "Coexistence is really important," adds Martin, who still runs a business with Deborah. "For me, a journey through life is far more meaningful if you don't force dislocations into it that aren't necessary."

Calgary couple Kate and Tom had been married for 18 of their 23 years together. They had two children, now 17 and 14, and lived happily for a number of years. After a while, though, Kate started to feel lonely in the marriage—that Tom "wasn't there emotionally"—though she concedes she also played a role in the marriage's demise. Finally, just before Christmas two years ago, she asked him to move out.

Despite the grief and anger they both felt as they were separating, Kate and Tom dis-

cussed how they needed to manage the situation for the children's sake. "We've wedded really hard at being afraid," says Kate, now 47 (Teen & 35). "We never, ever say anything bad about each other because of the kids and because it doesn't pay." The children spend more time with their mother, but Kate makes sure Tom knows everything that's going on at school and at her house. She even expects the time may come when she and her ex-husband will be good friends. "We were together a very long time," she says, "and I don't think you stop loving someone."

The couple were clear from the beginning that an acrimonious parting wouldn't benefit anyone. "I don't think you can move on and build a life and have any fun if you're putting energy into being resentful or being difficult—or even being angry," Kate adds. "It just doesn't pay. Living and loving takes enough energy. Loving and hating is just a huge waste of time."

Children may be one of the strongest in-

centives for divorcing couples to be civil to—or even flirt with—each other. But there are other potent factors, among them the very real differences between how this and previous generations view divorce. "Many of the people who are getting divorced today were in fact children of parental divorce, so it does, in a sense, become normalized in a culture," says Robert Gleason, co-executive director of the Ottawa-based Vanier Institute of the Family. "One might speculate that having had the experience of divorce, they do understand how difficult or traumatic it can be. We may be maturing a little bit as a society that recognizes that relationships are fragile, vulnerable and do break up, and thus we need to minimize the effects of divorce on children."

Gleason also speculates that because people tend to get married later than they used to, they might approach divorce more rationally. Until recently, there were few options to help people who weren't able to get along in marriage to make a proper go of divorce. But in recent years, more and more couples—and lawyers—are dropping their weapons and abandoning

the court system. Divorce mediation is becoming increasingly prevalent, and a growing number of family lawyers are opening out of litigation.

Talking to a collaborative lawyer is like speaking to someone who has just seen the light. For many of the divorce and family lawyers who switch over to collaborative law, there's a profound sense of relief. Years of dealing with angry couples and displaced children take their toll. Traditional divorce, says Brampton, Ont.-based lawyer Victoria Smith, "is so expensive, it takes so long and the outcomes are so unpredictable." A collaborative divorce typically costs between \$5,000 and \$10,000, while a divorce that ends up in court could cost as much as \$70,000. Ultimately, she adds, the things people really care about often aren't dealt with. "Most people who go into family law do it because they want to help," says Smith. "I was really having a sense that my lawyers are often making things worse. Our mission is to get the biggest piece of the pie for our clients, and in family matters that doesn't work. Relationships were damaged. We often made them worse."

Morena Sack's passionate desire to preserve family law turned from the lingering effects of his own parents' divorce during the 1950s. But he often felt frustrated by the way the system worked. "In the adversarial model, you're waging war and there's this whole idea of victim and loser—the best looking for maximum and the husband trying to pierce with minimum," says the Whitnower-based lawyer. In the collaborative model, the goal is to interest both negotiators, how can problems be resolved? A win-win solution is the goal. "Sacks found out about collaborative law two years after from a client. 'This was a gift from God as far as I was concerned,'" he adds. "We talk about a paradigm shift but that hardly does it justice. It's more like a quantum leap."

How it works—and it only works for people who are looking for a peaceful resolution, not for those hiding assets or out for revenge—is that each person hires a collaborative lawyer and all four proceed through the divorce as a team. Typically, collaborative lawyers also have like-minded child specialists, financial advisers and business valuations on call to help deal with particularly troublesome aspects.

## THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES



A video camera captured the Penningtons' divorce ceremony, moderated by friends.

Going to court is not an option. "The belief is that people can make their own decisions," explains Smith. "You're still acting as that person's lawyer, but in addition you're acting as a facilitator, providing people with the support they need to make those decisions, making sure they have an opportunity to sit between the positions they bring in the door and think about what's important in the long term."

John and his wife separated last summer after almost 10 years of marriage. The 36-year-old construction supervisor living in Brampton loved her but found they had little in common apart from their three children. "I could've stayed for the kids," says John. "But between the time I was 12 and 24, my parents went through that. They shot daggers at each other, and I hated it with a passion so I was not going to put my kids through that." Desperately angry

his wife was with him—he had an affair before he and his wife separated—the wanted to mediate a settlement together. The couple's primary objective was to remain friends with each other. "He hurt, but the fact that we could sit at a table—and yes, there were tears then—was a very positive experience," says John. "It was four people, all friends, trying to find solutions and coming up with suggestions."

In the end, according to Calgary mediator Janet Magnuson, that is really what most people prefer. "People want their marriage to end cleanly," says Magnuson, who runs a business called *Constructive Divorce*. "They don't want to go to court and arm and leg and they don't want to hate each other. This process allows people to end relationships respectfully, effectively and efficiently."

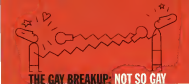
A handful of couples are over-turning

to divorce ceremonies, rituals that signal the end of a relationship and the beginning of a new life space. Such a ritual has existed in Judaism for millennia: traditionally, a husband gives a gift (the Hebrew word for the divorce document) to his wife to free her to marry again, in this case, Pennington and his wife of 25 years, Barbara, whom he divorced in 1997, drew on that and other ceremonies for *A Healing Divorce*, their 2001 book about how to symbolically seal a divorce. "I don't think any relationship ends without a lot of strong feelings," says Phil, who lives in Longmont, Colo. "We did not want to let our conflict carry us away into animosity and bitterness and enmeshment. There were a lot of good things in our relationship and we wanted to do our best to preserve those things, even as we decided to divorce."

In their ceremony, attended by friends, the Penningtons played a video tribute to the marriage, spoke of forgiveness and regret and of the gratitude they felt for the relationship they'd lived. "Marriages, families, but marriages—there are seeds and seeds of different rituals," he says. "The symbols involved in a ritual speak for more powerfully than the words in a divorce decree." Adds Pennington: "When my father got divorced in the mid-1950s, so far as he was concerned it was just a fight. How can anyone be against something that causes harmony and peace, especially when there are children involved?"

But like any healthy marriage, a good divorce requires commitment and a lot of hard work. "It's still a relationship," says Dawson-ethne Shepherd. "Your marriage is ending, but your relationship isn't ending if you have children. It needs to change but it's not over." The payoffs are big for divorced couples who have struggled through the anger and grief and made peace with each other. Judy Moody's first husband was her childhood sweetheart. She married him at 18, after she got pregnant, and within a couple of years they had a second child. But after about five years, the marriage fell apart, and Moody left. They struggled through a few years of anger and bitterness, and even tried to reconcile once, but ultimately decided to build a post-marital friendship.

Around her Christmas table seven years ago were Moody and her children, her first



## THE GAY BREAKUP: NOT SO GAY

Financial strain, infidelity and communication problems, loss of love, parenting differences—many of the issues that may ultimately divide a couple—emerge over time. But one that has caught a common-sense lawyer's eye is the fact that gay couples face different challenges, both in their relationships and in the event of separation. Canadian figure skater Brian Boitano recently illustrated one of these challenges in 1998 when his former partner, Craig Lewis, brought a paternity suit against him. Over time, understandably, to have the most record of the case would, having that career could be harmed once his sexual preference became public knowledge.

In fact, the issue of how "gay" a same-sex couple is even when the partners are together can be added source of stress. "I don't know if very many couples when both people are in the same place at the same time show how public they are about the relationship," says Lee, a health-care worker in her late 30s who, with her partner, a child services employee (left), has a two-year-old child (biological mother) and became pregnant through artificial insemination. The Calgary couple has also experienced the task of someone on the biological parent has to be a child even the relationship with the biological parent is even legal when a 23-year-old son had a prior wife, and had to be adopted to get legal guardianship of the child when she was 16, a year after the end of the biological mother's first broken up. She and his daughter, finally, when he turned 23, she told him and with him, but he had previously taken her child with him, but she had to be legal first before adoption.

There are other unique parenting issues to resolve, according to Calgary mediator Janet Magnuson. In wife, Moody's second husband, he is low and her former husband "I was never so happy in my whole life. I was very whole family was there," recalls Moody, who lives in Sutton, Ont. Over the years since their divorce—Moody is now 56—she and her ex-husband have been through a lot together, including the death of their son, Andrew, in 1996. "Bill came over and we sit and we talk about Andrew

Boitano. It's a little couple, for example, they have allowed for some access between their child and his stepmother. "How we have to negotiate how it will work if they negotiate their relationship into couples—four mother figures and a child who may come in and out of the picture," she explains. Another has three kids, still legally, says prominent regarding special support and court-appointing. But in 1999, in a case known as *Morison v. K.* the Supreme Court of Canada ruled it was unfair that a Toronto lesbian had no rights to see a former partner for support. The following year, Ontario passed Bill C-23, which ruled that same-sex couples were entitled to the same financial support benefits, child support and child's best interests common-law couples.

An Israeli gay rights lawyer Douglas Elliot notes, each person has the right to choose their own couples to different extent, but at least now there is a constitutional imperative for support. Still, he adds, because there isn't a reliable legal framework for same-sex couples, "it does create greater uncertainty and that can create a more conservative approach than would occur in a heterosexual situation." In addition, he says, ADS may be a simplification factor because the partner is disabled, the other may have a lifetime obligation to him.

Client stress management same-sex couples to draw up prenuptial agreements. But that advice also is the face of human nature, gay or straight. "I think it's pretty typical of all marriages regardless of their sexuality, to enter into a relationship in a very thoughtful and aware, everything will be fine," says Lee. "So there's a lot of, let's sit down and draw up a lot of forms—let's get a lawyer?"

Not advised

and what would have been and what was, and we cry and we laugh and we have a bond. He's the only person I can sit and talk to like that." To Moody and to others who have worked at having a good divorce, the relationship is a success. "I have a history with him that I don't have with anyone else," says Moody. "When I see him, it's like seeing the best, dearest friend in the world. And I love him with all my heart."





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## A real survivor

When Walter Cronkite awoke in a hospital bed after suffering a stroke in 1991, he couldn't remember a thing. Gone were the names and faces of his wife and five children; gone were their accomplishments and achievements, including those of Wayne, his favorite son. Gradually, he distil ned the pictures of his family on the wall to help him figure out who was who. But with an short-term memory, he has to write down even the simplest of things. Ask him what he remembers about Wayne's glory years with the Edmonton Oilers and Walter, 63, shrugs he recalls very little. "Most everything from the '70s to the mid-'90s doesn't exist," he says. "The odd thing I remember, but not much."

But Grzeski has no time for pity—his brush with death and his recovery strike as a defining moment from which he's motivated with one simple principle: "There's life after a stroke. When you get a second chance, boy, it's everything else different." If getting this message out in his best-selling books, *Walter Grzeski: The Family Doctor and His Story*, and as a spokesman for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, New with every person he educates, and with every stroke victim he encourages, Walter Grzeski becomes a star in his own right. The Coast City, St.



## Manley's makeover

**L**iz Manley is finally going back to the Olympics. Canada's effervescent silver medalist from the 1988 Winter Games in Calgary has been hired as an analyst for CBS' Feb. 8 figure skating coverage from Salt Lake City, and she's psyched. "I haven't been to an Olympics when I competed," she says, "so this is really exciting."

The Gurney gig is one of several positive developments for Masley, who, as a job, 29 LHO and three commentary on CBC suggests, could use a break. The 35 year old from Toronto, Ont., has seen her share of tough times. She has suffered



Upon hearing the music blaring from the headphones in downtown Toronto, Rick Terfry comments: "I hate hip hop. It's obnoxious." That's strange coming from Terfry, who is also known as Hlaxlak rapper Buck 65, but his brand of hip hop is different from the norm. Voiced in Eastern philosophy and Old English classics and inspired by songwriters like Simon and Garfunkel and谭咏麟, Terfry weaves personal, intelligent themes laced by obscure beats sampled from all genres of music. On his latest CD, *After Glowskind*, Terfry's own lyrics, in biology from St. Mary's University, tackle subjects like heartbeats and his mother's death from breast cancer.

that if you wind," says the 29-year-old native of Mount Airy, N.C. "That really hurt my feelings. People complain about wanting to hear something different. But do they *only*? Because those people have heard my record and they *listen*. 'What is this?' But now Terley's getting his due. Recently members of **Radiolabel** made it public that we are Black 65 fans. And they're not with him on their last Canadian tour. Since that endorsement, Terley's been fielding calls from major record labels and tour promoters—and he admits it bothers him a bit. "Why when I saw one this drive did they say, 'Nah,' and now it's over their shoulder—but when they heard Radiolabel liked it, they went *managing* first," says Terley. "Why is the world so *manipulated*?"



kept wondering what I was going to do," she says. "But I have another career ahead of me now, and I really believe I can help some of these kids become champions." And help himself, too.



# THE POWERHOUSE

They're building a synchrotron in Saskatoon. Here's why you should care.

BY BRIAN BERGMAN in Saskatoon

**T**o appreciate the \$374-million synchrotron project now under construction at the University of Saskatchewan, it helps to think big—and then, to think very, very small. The building housing the

synchrotron, a giant particle accelerator that turns electrons into light, spans an area roughly the size of a Canadian Football League field. Synchrotron light is incredibly intense, a billion times brighter than the sun, to be precise. Harnessing that light allows scientists to peer into the

atomic structure of samples as small as the width of a human hair. What they learn along the way holds the potential to eradicate diseases, develop life-saving drugs and cleanse the environment.

Since the technology was first pioneered in the late 1960s, more than 40 synchro-

## Education

now have been built, including 10 in the United States, more than a dozen in Japan and several in Europe. The Saskatchewan synchrotron, though, is Canada's first—although somewhat in the opinion of many scientists, but a cause for celebration all the same. "It's a great thrill to see this finally happening," says Michael Bancroft, a University of Western Ontario chemist who lobbied for a Canadian synchrotron for more than 30 years and his oversight the Saskatchewan project in its early stages. "We have the potential to do some outstanding science that is really going to make a difference."

The synchrotron, officially known as the Canadian Light Source (CLS), is Canada's largest science project in more than 30 years. It finally got the green light thanks to a \$56.4-million grant, the biggest single award to date from the Canada Foundation for Innovation, an independent corporation established by the federal government in 1997. Still, the project has gone largely unnoticed outside of Saskatchewan. Asked if he'd disappointed with the lack of fanfare, the foundation's president, David Strangway, responds in the affirmative. "It's important that people realize this project will have a massive impact," says Strangway. "It's bringing people back to Canada and allowing others to stay here and do research they never could have dreamed of before."

These sentiments are echoed by University of Saskatchewan president Peter MacKinnon. The university has a special stake in the success of the CLS, scheduled to begin operation in January 2004. In addition to contributing \$7.5 million in capital funding, the university owns CLS Inc., a not-for-profit corporation that will oversee day-to-day operations. The university is actively recruiting faculty with expertise in synchrotron research and will host as many as 2,000 visiting scientists and graduate students a year once the facility is up and running. MacKinnon is also looking on the CLS to enhance the institution's overall reputation. "Every university," he says, "has to ask itself what it is that we do where we can expect to be among the best in the world. I think the research the synchrotron supports will form a critical part of this university's future."

The Saskatchewan synchrotron may be a scientific wonder, but these days it looks a lot like a giant roller-coaster: about one



MacKinnon's university has a special stake in the \$174-million project

without cars or riders. As Bancroft took a visitor on a recent tour, workmen noisily assembled metalwork and new piping. From a platform overlooking the facility, Bancroft pointed to the floor where more than 700 concrete piles were sunk up to 30-in deep to eliminate vibration when the synchrotron operates. He pointed towards the eight main roof trusses, each weighing 67 tonnes, that were used instead of traditional pillars to give an unobstructed span for the synchrotron beamlines. Bancroft also pointed out the huge heating and ventilation pipes, a crucial feature since the facility must be kept at a constant temperature—oscillate just in a climate that can experience wild fluctuations in the course of a day, and dip down to -40° C in winter. "There aren't too many other crated places on earth with these kinds of conditions," chuckled Bancroft.

The guts of the synchrotron, the doughnut-shaped booster and storage rings in which the electrons circulate, have yet to be assembled. These will be fixed at ground level, hidden behind thick con-

crete shieldings. A linear accelerator feeds the electron stream into the booster rings. By this point, the electrons are already travelling at nearly the speed of light, but their velocity will increase as they travel around the ring. The electrons are then fed into the storage ring, where synchrotron light is produced as bending magnets deflect the electron beams. Each set of bending magnets is connected to an experimental station, or beamline. Machines filter or intensify the light to get the precise settings needed for experiments.

The Saskatchewan facility will be one of only a handful of third-generation synchrotrons in the world, providing light a thousand times more intense than earlier models. A brighter light means faster experiments, using ever-smaller sample sizes. The CLS will include seven beamlines to begin with, gradually building up to a maximum of 30 over perhaps a decade. The existing beamline costs up to \$7 million to construct.

Synchrotron research is an eclectic affair. To date, it has focused mainly on materials

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# What in the world's going on.

Morning News  
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Installing a magnet, part of Canada's largest science project in more than 30 years

science, leading to improvements in, among other things, athletic shoes, dental fillings and airplane wings. The next wave, and catching up fast, is what is known as protein crystallography. The synchrotron allows researchers to study the exact structure of proteins such as hormones, enzymes and antibodies, providing crucial information for designing new drugs and therapies. This could, for example, hasten the development of a protein inhibitor that regulates blood-sugar production in the cells of diabetics.

Other potential breakthroughs include new screening tools for breast and lung cancer, as well as radiation therapy for inoperable brain tumours in infants. University of Manitoba chemist Kathleen Gough has been working at American synchrotrons, examining molecular changes associated with Alzheimer's. "Everybody knows this is a widespread cause," says Gough. "But we don't have a good handle on all the causes. Are they genetic or environmental? Or does it take a combination of the two?" Gough is looking forward to having easier access to a synchrotron much closer to home. "It's good news for all of us," she says. "The quality of light at this facility allows for techniques that were unheard of before."

One unique aspect of the CLS is that 25 per cent of beamtime is being dedicated to industrial clients. For more than at any other synchrotron. In part, it's a matter of economics: industry is willing to pay up to \$40,000 a day for immediate access to a beamline, money that will help offset the facility's \$15-million annual operating budget. Already, Saskatchewan mining companies are looking to the synchrotron to give them crucial information about arsenic levels in mine-tailings ponds and how to clean them up. Alberta energy compa-

nies are similarly eager to learn more about the chemistry behind pipeline corrosion, easing it off from the tar sands and reducing sulphur content in gasoline. Jeffrey Carter, who serves as CLS's liaison with industry, spends a lot of his time brainstorming with process-science scientists. "I'm trying to show them the opportunities, get their brains firing," says Carter. "Really, it's as harmless as one's imagination."

On the other hand, Carter acknowledges that a possible obstacle to attracting both industrial and academic researchers is the CLS's location. "By fit, the majority of potential users are in Ontario," he says. "For them, it may be as easy to go to San Francisco as come to Saskatoon. What can we do to get them here? That's a really tough sell."

So how did this scientific behemoth end up in a smallish city on the relatively remote northern Prairie? According to Bancroft, it was due to a combination of timing and impressive financial support from Saskatchewan authorities after the project was approved in principle in the mid-1990s. From the outset, there were two competing bids, one from the University of Western Ontario in London, which Bancroft headed, and the other from the University of Saskatchewan. "Because the Harris government was in the process of slashing and burning, it was impossible to get any significant support for the Ontario bid," recalls Bancroft. By contrast, Saskatchewan sources poured up \$36.7 million, including \$25 million from the provincial government. Eventually, the governments of Ontario and Alberta contributed nearly \$10 million each to the project after Saskatchewan had been selected.

Bancroft, who served as interim director of the CLS until last fall, believes consensus

## Education

about its location can be overcome as long as the university aggressively promotes the facility and attracts top-flight faculty. Already, there is evidence that the synchrotron is acting as a magnet for young researchers, many of whom had left Canada. Carter, 39, a native of St. Thomas, Ont., who did his doctoral thesis in Western under Bancroft, is among them. Carter had been working as a research scientist with the U.S. air force in Dayton, Ohio, when he got the offer to come to Saskatoon. "Quite simply," he says, "I'm here because the synchrotron is here."

That view is shared by Katie Mitchell, 33, an Ottawa native who accepted a position with the University of Saskatchewan physics department last year after completing her post-doctoral work at Oxford University. Mitchell specializes in basic materials research that could lead to the development of smaller, more powerful computer chips as well as improved medical implants. "I applied to institutions across Canada," says Mitchell, "but for me, the synchrotron really made the difference. It's going to be a very stimulating environment."

Not everyone on the Saskatchewan campus is so enthused. Last fall, several humanities professors held a special forum on the so-called corporatization of the university, where the synchrotron was a favourite target. Among the participants was Sandy Ervin, a professor of anthropology at the U of S since 1971. Ervin is upset that while money and resources are lavished on the basic sciences and engineering like the CLS, the humanities are receiving painful budget and manpower cuts. "What really matters is the quality of teaching in the classroom," says Ervin. "This is a people's university and we should be putting our efforts into training students, not getting caught up in this globalization or corporate matters."

The university's president believes such concerns are misplaced. "The presence of an outstanding national laboratory will be a boost to the whole university," says MacKinnon, who comes from a humanities background. "When people recognize a university as a centre for excellence, it is rarely limited to one or two disciplines. It needs to be interdisciplinary." While the critics remain skeptical, MacKinnon estimates that the synchrotron's bright lights should be a beacon for everyone. ■

# Relief at a high price

Arthritis sufferers have to balance the pros and cons of new medications

BY CELIA MILNE

For medication gave Rose Balan a taste of a better life. Balan, now 67, has had rheumatoid arthritis for 32 years. Traditional medications can no longer suppress the searing pain and chronic swelling in her joints. Only something new and powerful would do the trick. In July 2000, Balan began taking an experimental drug called Remicade, and

it worked like a miracle. "As soon as I started on Remicade, I felt no stiffness, no fatigue," she says. "I felt normal." Better yet, the therapy didn't cost a cent. For a year and a half, Balan, a single Grade 3 teacher in Merrimack, B.C., received complimentary infusions every six weeks from distributor Schering-Canada Inc. under a special access program set up before Remicade received approval for sale. But last fall, Health Canada gave the drug its green light, and

the special access program came to an end. That left Balan having to find the \$29,000 a year it would cost her to keep taking the above-mentioned dose of Remicade she needs. Even warnings of potentially dire side effects couldn't dampen her resolve. "There are no other medical options open to me," said a panicky Balan last November as the effects of her final free infusion wore off. "I can't just stop." She wrote letters and made phone calls urging



For Balan, a new drug has meant feeling normal again.



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decision-makers at the provincial and her private drug plan to cover the cost of Remicade. At any of hope came just before Christmas: her employer's insurance plan will pay almost half her Remicade costs, enough for her to receive treatment. Shaban has no idea how she will raise the rest, but she's pleased to get a reprieve. "I'm operating under to survive right now," she says.

Shaban's plight illustrates a mixed message emerging from new developments in arthritis treatment: while her new drugs are enkindling onto the scene and providing hope for Canadians suffering pain and disability, all that glitters is not necessarily gold. The new drugs are wildly expensive, they're only meant for the sickest patients for whom other treatments have been unsuccessful, and they are still experimental. Patients should remember, too, that behind every drug, there's a massive marketing machine.

In the case of Remicade, Schering has faced accusations of luring patients like Shaban into its sales scheme. In November, the CBC-TV program *Question* accused the company of giving desperate patients a free ride of Remicade so they'll be eager to keep using it when the special access program ended, and would then lobby their governments and private drug plans to get it covered. Getting Remicade onto provincial lists of approved drugs—known as formularies—could be worth billions of dollars for Schering, said the CBC.

Schering, however, calls the CBC report misleading. In fact, says company spokesman Randy Steffen, Schering gave out \$55 million worth of Remicade on a compassionate basis. "The special access program was not a marketing program," he says. "It was a legitimate access program for patients with serious or life-threatening illness."

Dr. Diane Mosher, president of the Canadian Rheumatology Association, agrees. "It wasn't that Schering created the special access program," she says. Such programs are set up by Health Canada to

## THE NEW WEAPONS AGAINST ARTHRITIS

They're risky, they're expensive, but for many arthritis sufferers their benefits make the new drugs worthwhile

	REMICADE	ENBREL
APPROVED IN CANADA	September, 2000	December, 2000
MAY BENEFIT PEOPLE WITH	Moderate to severely active rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease	Moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis
MODE OF DELIVERY	Intravenous infusions in hospital or clinic every eight weeks	Self-administered injection twice a week
RISKS	Serious infections, severe latex reactions of pre-existing conditions such as TB	Serious infections, including breast abscessing, cancer risk, occurrence of pre-existing conditions
COST	Approx. \$18,000 for year 1; and \$14,000 per year thereafter	Approx. \$17,000 per year
COVERAGE	Most private plans, only on Saskatchewan and Ontario lists	Most private plans, only on Saskatchewan and Ontario lists



allow sick people access to promising drugs that have undergone testing but are still awaiting government approval for sale. "Without special access, many patients would not have received therapy until much later," says Mosher. "Clearly it was a huge benefit. I've had patients who have called crying, saying, 'They can't make me go back to the way I was.'"

But that's just the kind of emotion that helped Schering fail in its marketing campaign, says Dr. Jon Wright. An expert in clinical pharmacology and internal medicine in Vancouver, Wright is managing director of the University of British Columbia Therapeutics Initiative. That drug assessment working group evaluates various new medications for possible inclusion in the B.C. government's drug benefit program. "Why do the power of pharmaceutical companies, Wright feels

patients and organizations are being influenced with the means of increasing drug sales. The Arthritis Society, for example, accepts about \$2 million a year from pharmaceutical companies, including Schering, and actively encourages patients to lobby for better access to Remicade and so other new breakthrough arthritis drug, Enbrel.

Wright worries that the society's enthusiasm for these drugs may have been swayed by the money it receives. "They get a huge amount of money that goes there, is a potential conflict-of-interest position," he says. The Arthritis Society, however, is unapologetic about using arthritis sufferers to lobby. "It has nothing to do with the companies," says president Denis Marotte, based in Toronto. He says the question the society asks is whether a drug would help patients. If it would, he adds, "then we'll make sure they get it."

Enbrel and Remicade are known as biologics, drugs which work by blocking a chemical called tumour necrosis factor alpha (TNF), which inflames joints. Although Marotte calls them "the biggest advancements in 100 years," they are not panaceas. They're intended only

for patients with moderate or severe rheumatoid arthritis for whom other treatments aren't working. Their long-term effects are not known, as they have been in use for only about two years. Having costed a few hundred thousand worldwide among patients on biologics, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has warned that people with certain pre-existing infections (most commonly tuberculosis) or liver conditions should not take them. But side-effects are common with all rheumatoid arthritis drugs, says Dr. Christopher Penney, a rheumatologist at Rockyview Hospital in Calgary. "The side-effects are no worse than those from any other drugs we are using," Penney says.

Lynn MacKillop, whose rheumatoid arthritis flared up so badly more than two years ago that she was bedridden for 15 months, says when you're in that much

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## Health

pain you'll try anything. "I was desperate," says the 46-year-old Edmontonian secretary. "Thank to God, I took 100 Tylenol in its one week. I took, I don't like the idea just give me morphine." Last November, MacDonald started taking Endol, which is covered under her private health benefits, and she's feeling well.

Arthritis affects four million Canadians. About 300,000 of them have the most disabling form, rheumatoid arthritis (RA), an autoimmune disease in which the body attacks itself. The cornerstone of treatment for RA has long been the disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARDs) such as Methotrexate, commonly known as "yellowish gold," and methotrexate. Although they all have side-effects, these disease-modifying drugs are well established.

Doctors prescribe nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) such as Aspirin, Motrin and Advil for many types of arthritis to reduce joint pain and swelling, but these drugs have been associated with stomach ailments. New NSAIDs, introduced in Canada in 1999, are the selective cyclo-oxygenase (COX-2) inhibitors, sold as Celebrex and Vioxx, which appear to carry less risk of serious gastrointestinal problems.

One of the biggest challenges in arthritis treatment in Canada is the inconsistency in drug coverage policies from province to province. Vioxx provides a good illustration. Alberta, Manitoba, Quebec, New Brunswick and Newfoundland have included it in their formularies without restrictions—meaning patients receiving provincial benefits get it free. New Brunswick covers it for those over 65. British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Ontario limit it with more restrictions, and Prince Edward Island has not yet made a decision on Vioxx coverage.

Dr. John Fitzmaurice, a family doctor in Bradford, Ont., finds his province's limitations on prescribing the COX-2 drugs infuriating. Under Ontario's rules, any physician who wants to prescribe Vioxx has to establish that the patient has not improved on at least three other NSAIDs or had significant ulcer or gastrointestinal bleeding. "We have to put our patients at risk to cover government costs," he says, "and I find that objectionable." When they have managed to live through all this, then they are allowed Vioxx. "The prob-

## WHO PAYS FOR RX DRUGS?

### INDIVIDUALS

About 16 per cent of the \$12 billion in overall prescription drug expenses in Canada are paid for out of their pockets by individuals who don't have full coverage. The rest are covered by private and public payers.

### PRIVATE PLANS

Employee benefit plans and private insurers cover the largest chunk of prescription drug costs in Canada: 46 per cent. Many large employers hire pharmacy benefit managers to help them decide which drugs to cover for their employees and dependents. These decisions are often negotiated with employers, unions. The high cost of Endol and Remicade, covered under most plans, has "put employers in a panic position," says Fred Holmes of Brook Consultants in Toronto, an expert on private sector health plans, because their expenses to negotiate their plans will likely increase.

### PROVINCEAL GOVERNMENTS

Provinces pick up the tab for the other 40 per cent. Their plans generally cover such groups as the elderly and people in social welfare programs. To control costs, all provinces limit coverage to a select list of drugs known to be medically and cost-effective. These lists, called formularies, may have provisions to subsidize, in some cases, formularies will cover drugs only for certain groups of people or if it has been established that other, cheaper, drugs didn't work for a patient.

Chris Wilson

lem, he points out, is that "once they are in there, they could die." According to the Arthritis Society, almost 2,000 Canadians bleed to death each year from NSAID-related complications.

With the new biologics on the scene, access problems have magnified. Saskatchewan and Ontario are the only provinces so far to put Endol and Remicade on their formularies. One reason for the other provinces' reluctance could be the drugs' cost. About 213,000 Canadians have arthritis severe enough that they might qualify for Endol or Remicade. In the arthritis care of all of them being prescribed the new drugs, the overall bill—split among provinces, private insurance and individuals—could amount to almost \$4 billion per year.

Approval of the COX-2 drug in 1999 brought a sharp spike of demand. "They took

the market by storm," says Dr. Adam Aron, an expert on formularies from the department of health care and epidemiology at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. Annual spending on NSAIDs almost doubled across Canada that year, from \$46 million in 1998 to \$78 million.

Doctors, meanwhile, are caught between the agenda of the province—keeping costs down—and pressure by manufacturers and patients to get the new drugs into common use. Dr. John Kobell, a rheumatologist at St. Paul's Hospital and the Mary Fick Arthritis Centre in Vancouver, has been prescribing Remicade and Endol sparingly, recognizing they are "horribly" expensive. "This costs is open to," he says, "to use the old-fashioned medications that are tried and true. But for a significant number of rheumatoid arthritis patients the new biologic drugs are revolutionary. They work for a lot of desperate people. They change lives."

Still, UBC's Wright is skeptical. "Yes, some patients have really improved, but for how long?" he wonders. "There appear to be serious side-effects and I will take time to know the magnitude." Wright advises arthritis patients to hold off if they can. "It would be better if you can hang in there before you submit to the experiment."

The enormous debt these new drugs have offered to people like MacDonald and Balin is undeniable. Kobell is glad to be able to offer his sickest patients these drugs, even though he's not sure if Schering's monies with the special access program were really altruistic. "We gladly accept the few drugs," he says. "They want us to have a taste, to create a stir and then people will lobby." On the other hand, he says, the benefits are huge. "Ultimately it is for the better, we can offer choices."

Balin likens his free access to the work of missionaries. "Missionaries bring food, medicine and the word of God to developing countries," she says. "While they're intent on bringing people over to Christianity, they are providing other benefits, too. Now, the overall goal is to make money and get these drugs into wide use among patients, but in the end they are doing good by that. Does that justify the cost? I don't know. For me, it was a lifeline."

Should the sickest patients be allowed this access to potentially but unapproved drugs? [www.cma.org](http://www.cma.org)



Returning for season two, *Queer as Folk* has a strong heterosexual following.

**N**obody's paying much attention to the three guys leaning against the wall in the cafeteria. The room is jammed every seat taken by an attractive young man, and the place is humming with conversation. But still, nobody seems to notice that there are three hairless, perfectly formed Adames standing around in nothing but white briefs and heavy black shoes while other men slather paint on them. Of course, nobody in the room is an ordinary guy—they are tonight's 131 jurors at the dance club *BodyArt*, plus eight "kissing guys," one DJ and three (poor-)cuddled go-go-boys. And this is the cafeteria of *DuSart* Game Productions, a studio in Westwood and Berman and home for eight months of the year to the hit series *Cybernight* on *Adult*

for men who've developed, but the focus of the show—the lives of five young gay men in Pittsburgh—will remain the same. And so will the march. In fact, the first season of the season opener will take any fans during the production break pause story beyond the mass of swears, gayting men smooching and dancing at Babylon into the back room, where naked guys are in the throes of vicious sex acts. In a perhaps antedreadic but ultimately sense-defusing moment, a fully-dressed Michael (Hal Spaniol) wanders through, looking for his friend Brian (Gale Harold). "Hey Todd," he says nonchalantly as he passes an acquaintance engaged in sex, "how's a minute?"

and the channel's highest-rated series didn't drive them north. North of the border, *Queer as Folk* became Showtime's second-highest-rated show (after the soft-core *Star Search*), watched by as many as 200,000 viewers every week—a significant number for a Canadian specialty channel. It consistently attracts island gay disc jockies, including Camdin Brown, McDonald, John Greyson and Michael DeCarla. But perhaps even more surprising is that among adults between 18 and 49, women account for 57 per cent of the audience. "In kind of reminds me of *Men of Steel*," says GUFFIN and 34-year-old mother of two Lisa Seward. "Everybody's sleeping with everybody, the story's paranoiac, the characters are gay, and the movie is so beautiful. I like it because it's a throw-up to soap."



Learning can happen anywhere.



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Workweek of 35 hours

sort of screenplay. "The thing I admired most about the British show was not only was it graphic in language and sexuality but it was charming, it was fun, it was witty," says Lipsman. "It was very much our voice." Lipsman and Cowen, partners in their private lives who created the acclaimed 1985 AIDS film *As Told by Stuart* and the 1991 series *Stuart*—both Emmy winners—agreed they would write neither a political show nor a politically correct one. Instead, says Lipsman, they wanted to tell the truth, or at least what they considered the truth to be. "A lot of people get upset with the show because it's not their image of what it should be," says Lipsman. "The criticism we're really got are from the gay press. Their only one gay drama so they want every character to be a lawyer or a brain surgeon."

The creators also wanted the show to be graphic in its depiction of gay sexuality, particularly as they initially believed they were writing for a niche audience—an audience already familiar with the gay world. "We were all surprised that we have a vast audience, that we have a straight audience that loves the show," says Lipsman. "People don't have any problems with it." (Their two favorite criticisms, Cowen adds, weren't too much sex, and there's not enough full-frontal nudity.) The only real fun was made by the right-wing, South Dakota Family Policy Council, which took out a full-page ad in a December, 2000, edition of the *Report City Journal*, condemning Q&A and urging people to cancel their subscriptions to *Stuart*. "We couldn't pay for it, it was so good," laughs Peter Paige, who plays the security guard, fabulously dressed flamboyant "Doek" (which *Queer as Folk* II has accused of accuracy and lewdness and lewdness and anal sex and anal sex). "It was just like, wow! Fantastic!"

Perched up on a wall of a Dufferin-Gore production office is a 2½-page handwritten letter from a gay woman saying how much she loves the character of Brian. "The hottest gay man on the show." Although the American Q&A is more an ensemble piece than its British counterpart, Brian, a gaucy, highly social 30-year-old who makes no apologies for who he is, is still the core from which all else flows: the other characters radiate, in true soap-opera style, from him. There's Michael, Brian's somewhat



Clockwise from top left, Sparks, Harold, Lewis, Paige; Gill, Clarke are 'bad and evil' there

roommate and the best friend and secret admirer of Brian, Ted (Scott Lowrey), the Internet-porn-loving accountant, who harbors a secret crush on Michael; Justin (Bandy Harrison), the 18-year-old survivor of gay-bashing who is in love with Brian; and Lindsay (Thia Gill), who, with her longtime partner, Melanie (Michelle Chonka), is mother to a baby conceived with the help of Brian.

The show's success is at least partly attributable to sheer value. "Lots of teenagers—boys and girls, straight and gay—are really drawn to it because it's bad and out there and their parents don't want them to watch it, and it's about sex," says Q&A producer Sheila Harkin. "But it's also because it's brave and it's funny and they get to see this world." Gay teenagers and older gays, Harkin adds, have written moving letters about how important it is to see someone who represents them on television. "Usually, on television, a young gay person is in costume," says Lipsman, "walking on the beach, about to kill himself because he's gay."

Canadian Jack Weatherall, who plays Michael's Uncle Vic, believes the big draw is the music. "Quite frankly, I find a lot of the musical party magic," says Weatherall, whose character is an older HIV-positive gay man. "Nevertheless, I don't think the show is about reality, it's about truth. Each character defines his own truth. My character lives with a disability, but part of a non-traditional family, his parent relationship is with his sister [played by Sharon Gless], who really took care of him when he was sick, and he's been the father figure for Michael. I think we're

much more ready to deal with those stories."

The actors know their characters are inspiring to many Q&A viewers, a fact that helps reinforce the importance of playing roles that can be demanding, in their frankness. Gill and Clarke receive a lot of mail from young girls who have just come out and are dealing with their parents. "Sometimes they are really sad stories, and I cry and listen—I feel that's what my role is," says the Canadian Gill. "That's what's inspiring about the show, it's a personal show, and therefore the connections I make with people are very personal." It's been a cathartic experience for Paige, too, for personal reasons. "I'm done apologizing," says the gay actor. "I'm done saying I'm sorry in all sorts of different passive and active ways. I'm 'You know what? If you don't like it, I don't really care,' and it's been a fantastic thing for me to be able to come in here and do it every day."

Harry Hay, the 1950s father of the gay liberation movement, once said that the only thing gays and straights have in common is what they do in the bedroom. And that's certainly one of the draws for *Queer as Folk*'s audience, whatever their sexual preference. Cowen relates a conversation with a straight role fan, who told the writer that while it took him some time to get used to all the graphic gay sex, he came to realize that it really wasn't much different from sex between heterosexuals. "It's no big deal," he said, and those are my four favorite words," says Cowen. "If watching the show gets people to re-evaluate gay people and their lives and they come to the conclusion that it's no big deal, then I think, wow, we really did a good deal." ■



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FILMS BRIAN D. JOHNSON

## Oh! What a lovely war

Ridley Scott's *Black Hawk Down* is state-of-the-art combat porn

THIS WEEK, as Canadian troops prepare to saddle up with U.S. forces in Afghanistan, Hollywood swings into our theatres with an object lesson in pacifism: *American-style*. *Black Hawk Down* is an eloquently brutal war movie based on the true story of a bloodbath in Somalia that became the U.S. military's single biggest firefight since Vietnam. On the afternoon of Oct. 3, 1993, an assault force of American soldiers, serving as UN peacekeepers, descended on downtown Mogadishu with a fleet of Humvees and helicopters. Their goal: to capture two lawmakers of warlord Mohamed Farah Aidid and return to base within an hour. But Somali militia shot down two Black Hawk helicopters, the Americans became trapped in hostile territory, and a surgical assault turned into a desperate seven-mile run. The battle raged for 15 hours. By the time it was over, 18 Americans were dead, 73 were injured, and some 500 Somalis were killed.

It doesn't take much historical hindsight to view the battle of Mogadishu as a delicious *American* tragedy: troops begin to pull out of Somalia just two weeks later. And even in introducing the U.S. military, *Black Hawk Down* doesn't downplay the tragic futility of the raid. But this spectacle of apocalyptic carnage from director Ridley Scott (*Gladiator*, *Gladiator*) asks us to suspend political judgment. "Once that first bullet goes past your head, politics and all that shit go right out the window," says a veteran soldier, spilling out the ethos of the film. *Black Hawk Down* portrays war as an extreme sport, with a rule as old as the British Empire: it's not whether you win or lose but how you play the game. If you're a Ranger, part of that elite special-forces fraternity, you're sworn in only to *lose no one behind*, living or dead. Consequently, hundreds of Somalis die in the streets so that a few dead and wounded



Josh Hartnett plays an idealist under fire

Americans can be caricatured. This, apparently, is a good and noble thing.

*Black Hawk Down* is capriciously, subtly acid and riveting in its nihilism. Which makes it all the more alarming—war porn doesn't get any better than this. As *Forrest*, *we're* treated to *Apocalypse Now* waxes of black choppers skimming over beaches to guitar strummings of *Blender* Child. (It seems Americans are now incapable of going to war without a surge of '60s guitar in their veins.) And once the battle is engaged, the movie devolves into an organic shootout, set to a Hans Zimmer score swelling with *Arabic* rhythms.

Scott finds incredible beauty in the depths of hell. A barrage of bullets Forests of blood. A nuclear glow burning through a man's body in one of the quieter scenes, the camera dives into an open wound as a soldier shoves his hand

into the thigh of a fallen comrade to clasp a gaping artery—a full perversion close-up that grossly exaggerates the detail of the geysering having a slug plucked out with a pincer. As the caustic music, Scott shows rivers of spent cartridges (bathed in a golden light, the hard currency of war).

Often, the scenes themselves scores, good ones. Redemptive himself after the makeshift cocoon of *Paul Hester*, Josh Hartnett brings raw conviction to the lead role of Staff Sgt. Matt Emerson, an idealistic young Ranger receiving his baptism of fire. Ewan McGregor plays John Grimes, a dock policy who gets more adolescent than he bargained for. And Sam Shepard rides a razor's edge of madness as Maj. Gen. William F. Garrison, the commander who directs the operation via aerial video like a grim football coach phoning in plays in a doomed team.

But *Black Hawk Down* is not about action any more than war is about soldiers. Although the movie adapts the Ranger code of action, glorifying brotherhood of ordinary heroes, this is a show run by generals—Scott is a coalition with the U.S. military and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, Hollywood's king of overkill (*Planet of the Apes*, *Armageddon*). Scott keeps Bruckheimer's instinct for shock in check. And the film seems so grossly authentic that its images undermine its apocalyptic nature: what we see is a highly mechanized assault of white guns trying to shoot their way out of an endless mob of armed black civilians.

In the end, this movie that pretends to have no ideology is *life with a*—*Black Hawk Down* sacrifices a culture of war as a bloodbath of heroic sacrifice. A cautious footnote: the same argument that *Black Hawk Down* helped mend the battle on screen, and by coincidence two of the *Black Hawk* helicopters used in the film were named *Armageddon* and *Gladiator*. A case of death imitating art.

Maxwell | January 21, 2002 45

## Mongolian magic, and a tragic Elvis

If it weren't for programs like *Wives*, CBC-TV's weekly showcase for on-hour documentaries, some viewers might conclude that "reality" is a zone inhabited by vent North Americans engaged in weird behaviour like drinking cow's blood (*Survivors*) or doing anything—even sleeping and brushing their teeth—in front of video cameras (*URTV*). *Wives*, along with the non-spectacular network's other venerable documentaries, shows real people dealing with real stuff, not contrived situations. Of the documentary content in 30 seconds of a *Wives* doc is far greater than what you get in several hours of so-called reality TV. *Angling Devils* (Jan. 16, 8 p.m.) and *Sahib* (Jan. 23, 8 p.m.), two shows coming up in the series, are inescapably close to reality—disaster pieces—scenarios that real reality is a valued, unreplicable place.

The creators of *Angling Devils* had three winning elements to play with—an intriguing location (Mongolia), photographic subject matter (children learning to catch fish) and a powerful theme (saving young people from the streets). Three young, the British-born, of *Save the Children* and the Cirque du Soleil-owned program Cirque du Monde combined forces to establish a women circus camp in a field outside Ulaanbaatar, the Mongolian capital. *Cirque du Monde*, which teaches street kids juggling, acrobatics and other skills in 34 countries, are up in poverty-stricken Mongolia because of a personal connection: since Cirque then producer



Street kids get show and tell confidence

Daniel Gauthier and his wife, Hélène, travelled to Mongolia to adopt the five of their two daughters from the country they saw children climbing out of the sewers where they lived. Most of the 50 street kids who attend the Ulaanbaatar camp come from troubled homes, some have been slaves or prostitutes, and many have spent time living in the sewers, where about 1,000 young people take shelter in winter.

Co-written and -directed by Josh Freed and Mike Cerny, the film is a visually arresting Mongolia is a stark land of red mountains and rivers on horseback. There are no cities here, the field, bag-infused sewers—flat-roofed pipes hang there warm. Even more astonishing are the circus kids themselves. A boy of about six smiles broadly as he holds up his first successful *Treasure* and former thief *Angie*, about to begin practicing as a acrobat, tells the camera, "When I'm training with the circus I feel like I can do anything I want. I forget the bad things in life, and that feeling stays with me." *Angling Devils* also shows Mongolia's secret life: boys from straits because it borders China, previously fractured Soviet satel-

lite in U.S. backed nation with high unemployment and a devastated infrastructure. One concern: the somewhat ill-fated television could have been banned; many images would have been more disquieting without the voice-over.

*Sahib* (also in the depressing—and ultimately disappointing—story of British-Indian prince Michael McGuffin, who once lived in Toronto's slums. But in 1988 he was wrongfully convicted of two armed robberies and sentenced to five years in prison. After serving 20 months, he was exonerated. The documentary catches up with McGuffin in July 2000 as the performer, then 46, waits to settle a wrongful conviction suit.

McGuffin post-prison is a wreck, addicted to painkillers and plagued by anger. So it was ironic that the doc would never quite come into focus in the documentary as *dear* got close enough to McGuffin to really find his tragedy. As the camera shows him applying makeup on his forehead or drinking tea preoccupied with his laptop, he just seems a sad, listless, his tale of woe understated by leech.

*Devika Rishley*

## Two solitudes, in flagrante

So what would happen if Quebec voted in a referendum to leave Canada, and entered into negotiations with the federal government to that effect? That's the scenario tackled by Michael Hickey's audacious political satire, *Peter & John*, which has played offstage from both sides most in a field in Montreal. Don't miss the dissemination of the equity after the extraordinary international success of his last play, *The Driver*, by

the Toronto playwright has created a hard-edged but hilarious political satire which has been the awarding negotiations ending up in bed together. Their satirical game is as subtle, deeply felt, delectable about similarities of all kinds, and depicts Quebec's impending departure into political chaos. *Peter & John* is a brilliant cast with



Photo: David Gault

his meticulously subjective portrait of Michael Fraser, a federal finance minister who likes to entertain guests in his underpants, and whose charming exterior masks a shocking ability to say—and apparently believe—anything that's required of him. Delivered in both official languages, with subtitles for the unilingual. Play 8 (at Toronto's Toronto Theatre until Feb. 10) takes an otherworldly view of Quebec as an independent island off the rest of the country. But it's essential theatre, for it shows—as few Canadian plays ever have—how the political and the personal are marked for better or for worse.

*John Rosewood*

## Celebrity painting

The enigmatic smile is more in the eye of the beholder than on Lisa Gherardini's lips, and not even unusual in Renaissance artwork, writes historian Donald Sassoon in *Steering Mona Lisa* (Raincoast). So how did Leonardo da Vinci's portrait of a middle-class Florentine lady become both high art and pop icon, the most famous painting in the world? Historical accident, according to Sassoon, was the winning point.

La Gioconda hangs in Paris, at the hub of the art universe. There, since the French Revolution opened royal possessions to public view, thousands of artists, writers and poets re-created her gaudy art. Modern advertisements picked up on that 15th-century cult and have sent Lisa 500-year-old likeness around the globe on objects ranging from mugs to newspapers. All that, and the Mona Lisa is rather beautiful too.



## Best-Sellers

Fiction	WEEKS ON LIST
1. <i>CLASH DELAY</i> (John Grisham) 1	
2. <i>THE CORRECTIONS</i> (Anthony Browne) 2	
3. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 3	
4. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 4	
5. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 5	
6. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 6	
7. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 7	
8. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 8	
9. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 9	
10. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 10	

## Nonfiction

1. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 1	
2. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 2	
3. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 3	
4. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 4	
5. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 5	
6. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 6	
7. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 7	
8. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 8	
9. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 9	
10. <i>THE HUNTER</i> (Michael Ondaatje) 10	

(1) Weeks on list; (2) Weeks on list; (3) Weeks on list; (4) Weeks on list; (5) Weeks on list; (6) Weeks on list; (7) Weeks on list; (8) Weeks on list; (9) Weeks on list; (10) Weeks on list.

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## Learning to love Toronto

I live in the coolest, hippest, most trendy neighbourhood in Canada. Or so every media reference to the Queen Street West area of downtown Toronto tells us. You can't get through a sentence about this place without mention of "hipsterism," "super-die hipsters" or some such dawning with faint dancing. In case you haven't received your handbook yet, there's of this kind is a subtle but crucial part of the ongoing North American Campaign. The goal of this conspiracy (bearing an unofficial membership of 25 million or so) is to distance the inner city of our biggest metropolis as superficial, terminally self-involved and rolling in cash (which means—somewhere—from honest working people in the West of Center Road and Medicine Hat).

Only Ontario respects genuine passion.

Trouble is, the dissemination of seemingly harmless prejudice against a privileged city does more than spoil a few bohemians' morning lattes. Toronto-bashing acts as political camouflage that hides real problems people are suffering here (the very same problems, by the by, that fellow Canadians suffer in our less trendy precincts). Belief in the fiction that all those who live at the Centre of the Universe are either biased gossamers or pompous fashion victims has become one of the strongest forces that bind the Rest of Canada. Come to think of it, remaining Toronto may be the only fundamentalist conservatism that Alton Brown shares with Quebecers, Vancouverites, friends with St. John's Catholics. In the name of national unity, we here in New York's Mini Me are happy to be of service. But know that we have no less in common with your town than you might expect, including some of the coolest headbangers people could ever want to cry over.

One of them lives in the alley outside my back gate. Peter is a hobble-kick Russian immigrant in his 6th who spends all but the colder nights curled up against a neighbour's garage. He does better than most out there: the deli around the corner feeds him leftovers, and those who walk over his head supply coats, clothing and blankets. But dozens of others within blocks of Peter's cardboard quarters go by on a lot less. In some measure, their last walk as victims of the private marketplace at the raggedy we lose to lose, even to they still suffer from the wretched hole of our social safety net.

I recently attended a small Ontario town's book festival. Anti-Hegemony quips were flying with greater fury than usual (the literary community is especially address-averse). As a reception, a fellow writer asked where I lay my laptop.

"Toronto," I told him.

"So, how are you enjoying your visit to Canada?"

I laughed, as Torontonians do when on the morning end of the media we take in the hometown. Most of the time, it doesn't trouble us (people in the Big Smoke suffer from "world-class city" fatigue as much as the rest of the country). Yet there comes a point when ribbing crosses to be good-natured, and welcome and the blandly unimpressed. The population of the Greater Toronto Area is 5.3 million, or 17 per cent of all Canadians. Each year, however, that constituency spends \$38 billion on the national treasury, or roughly 45 per cent of total tax receipts. What the city alone back doesn't come within a CN Tower's reach of what it puts in—it wouldn't be called "redistribution of wealth" if it did.

But when the country's economic engine cannot maintain its public transport system without making it unaffordable to those who use it, and is forced to make do with regularly overcrowded busload children, and has to resort to subsidizing the expenses of low-wage migrants, taken about Toronto's economic success seems almost modest.

As someone who has lived in Montreal, the Yukon and other places in between, I see where some put-downs come from. My annoyances about Toronto include its antipathetic aspirations, neo-Victorian clichés and (despite one of the largest Italian populations outside Italy) its lousy pizza. The long-suffering Torontonians' gentleness must be distinguished from using its taxes to justify neglect of its most vulnerable.

None of this is meant to shift national sympathies towards—literally—my own backyard. I ask only that if you come for a visit, don't let the shopping racks, the fast-food restaurants and open-concept (open waller concept) left developments distract you from the cold, hard facts, the most troubling being the cold human beings on the hard pavement. It would do our nation's reputation for fairness some good to remember that Toronto is still part of Canada, and it's getting mighty chilly out there. For those living on our streets—whether in the Queen, Portage or St.-Catherine—getting through winter is a matter of life and death. And there's nothing fashionable about that.

*Andrew Pyper, born and raised in Stratford, Ont., is the author of *Lost Girls*, a novel selected in a notable book of the year by The New York Times. His second novel, *The Trade Mission*, will be published in the fall.*



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